FAMILY
HISTORY
BAKER

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The John Baker Family

Assembled 12-17-1976

By M. L. and Viola Baker Knight

This family history is not copyrighted. It is loose leafed and not complete, therefore change or take away as you please. The dates I used are from 3 sources:- Bible records, cemetery records and from relatives. I admit all do not agree as to the exact day of birth or death. Please forgive if I chose the wrong day.

My Father, Ross W. Baker, bought a "Baker Family History" by J. Montgomery Seaver and published by the American Historical-Genealogical Society of Philadelphia, Pa. in 1929 complete with the Baker Coat of Arms. After Father and I read this book we came to the conclusion that our Baker family is entirely different than any mentioned in this book.

Uncle Harry W. Baker and Great Uncle Henry Smith Baker claimed the family name was Becker in Germany, land of our forebears, and was changed when they came to America. Uncle Harry told me about the 3 Baker brothers from Hessecassel, Germany. (Some claim name was Becher)

Great, great, great Grandfather John _____ Baker and his 2 brothers, David _____ Baker and Andrew _____ Baker, were Hessian soldiers from Hesse, Germany, a province east of the Rhine River. (Some think their father's name was Peter - no one was sure) (NOTE: THERE IS NO CONFIRMATION OF THIS HESSIAN SOLDIER STORY— PROBABLY CAME TO AMERICA PRIOR TO THE REVOLUTION.)
Our History Books tell us that the English people would not volunteer to fight the Americans so King George III of England had to hire nearly 30,000 Hessians from the Prince of Hesse, Germany to help suppress the Revolution in America which ended in 1776. Hessian soldiers took a prominent part in the battles of Long Island, White Plains, Trenton, Bennington, Brandywine, Germantown, Guilford Court House, Yorktown and several smaller engagements.

These 3 Baker brothers saw that the American army was treated better than the British army so they deserted the British army and joined the Colonial army and fought against their comrades. (Reading between the lines I think one reason they joined the Colonial army is the fact that they fell in love with American girls and married them. They certainly would not want to fight against their in-laws)

The 3 Baker brothers were present at Cornwall's surrender at Yorktown, Va. October 19, 1781. The American army was disbanded the latter part of 1783 soon after the last of the British left New York. Aunt Millie said the 3 Baker brothers hid themselves so they would not have to return to Germany.

Having no money to pay the 3 Baker brothers for services rendered during the war Gen. George Washington gave them land grants in Franklin and Bedford counties in Pennsylvania which he said was very desirable. Washington said he had personally been over that territory and seen its fertility.

Uncle Harry said a lot of the Hessian soldiers were offenders of the law in Germany and either joined the Foreign Legion to escape the law or were forced to serve because the law had caught up with them, therefore they were reluctant to return to their native land. After the war many settled in the eastern counties of Virginia but never did prosper.

After the Revolutionary War Great, great, great Uncle Andrew Baker settled down to farming in Franklin Co., Pa.

Besides farming Great, great, great Uncle David Baker ran a store at Bakers Summit in Bedford Co., Pa. He journeyed with others in a caravan to Baltimore for supplies. His store was made of logs. He had some kind of opening in the roof. When he got a bit too much to drink he would appear head, shoulders and arms above the roof and preach, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My (Jesus Christ's) Words shall not pass away".

Great, great, great Grandfather John _____ Baker was probably born between 1740 and 1750 in Hessecassel, Germany. Sometime after coming to America as a Hessian soldier he married Mary _____ Freidley (or Freidly) who was born about 1747. They settled near Everett in Bedford Co., Pa. and later moved to Bakers Summit, Pa. where he farmed the rest of his life. He died in 1829 and was buried ½ mile south of Bakers Summit.

Great, great, great Grandmother Mary Freidley Baker's parents were Andrew _____ Freidley and Catherine (spelling?) _____ _____ Freidley of Quincy, Washington Twp., Franklin Co., Pa., having settled there October 4, 1751.

Great, great, great, great Grandfather & Grandmother Freidley with their 5 children - John, Ulery, Rosanna, Mary and Andrew Jr. - came to America from Wackerschend, Switzerland. Their little daughter Barbara, who was born May 29, 1751 in Wackerschend, was brought over later. He was a farmer and died prior to Dec. 30, 1786, the date his will was probated. The will listed all 6 children born in Switzerland.

Not being able to find Wackerschend, Switzerland on the map I wrote to Henry J. Taylor, Ambassador to Switzerland in 1961. His office replied, "Rather than delay your receiving the information you request we contacted the Swiss Travel Bureau in N. Y. and learned that Wackerschwend (note different spelling) is a tiny town 25 miles Northeast of Bern in the canton of Bern in the direction of Zurich. I am informed that it is so small that it does not appear on any maps now available".

My Great, great, great Grandparents, John and Mary Freidley Baker had 5 children:- (After Great, great, great Grandfather Baker died Great, great, great Grandmother Baker married a man by the name of Furrey)

1. Daniel _____ Baker

2. Andrew _____ Baker (11-10-1775 - 5- -1848) was born in Bedford Co., Pa. He married Nancy Ann Holsinger (4-12-1784 - 7-20-1878) daughter of Jacob _____ Holsinger and Susanna _____ Yeakle Holsinger who lived near Waynesboro in Franklin Co., Pa. Nancy Ann's grandfather was Rudolph _____ Holsinger.

   Andrew and Nancy Ann Holsinger Baker lived on a farm southwest of Waynesboro. They were German Baptist Brethren. They are buried in Price's Church Cemetery north of Waynesboro. They had 8 children:-

   (1) Abraham _____ Baker married Henrietta _____ Knepper.

   (2) John _____ Baker

   (3) Jacob _____ Baker

   (4) Daniel W. Baker (1-24-1815 - 1-24-1899) married Mary

_____ _____ (11-8-1815 - 10-8-1879)

(5) Frederick _____ Baker

(6) Mary _____ (Polly) Baker married David _____ Zentmyer.

(7) Susan _____ Baker married Samuel Rosenberger.

(8) Christianna _____ Baker married Jacob _____ Monn

Nancy Ann Holsinger Baker had a brother George _____ Holsinger (3-2-1762 - 4-3-1813) who married Rosanna _____ Freidley who was born about 1765 to 1770, daughter of Great, great, great Uncle Andrew _____ Freidley, Jr. of Franklin Co., Pa. in 1785.

George and Rosanna Freidley Holsinger lived in Franklin Co. until about 1796. The records show that they were assessed for 150 A. in Bloomfield Twp. near Bakers Summit in Morrison's Cove in Bedford Co. Pa. that year. They resided there the rest of their lives. They were members of the Church of the Brethren and had 5 children:-

(1) Susan _____ Holsinger (3-1-1786 - about 1834) married William _____ Mikesell. They had 5 children.

(2) John F_____ Holsinger (4-27-1788 - 4-4-1833) married Rachel _____ Biddle.

(3) Catherine _____ Holsinger (2-4-1792 - 2-19-1830) married Daniel _____ Ulrich, son of _____ _____ Ulery. (Must have changed their name) Catherine and Daniel had 8 or 9 children.

(4) Jacob F_____ Holsinger (10-3-1794 - 8-19-1834) married Polly _____ Mack. They had 7 children.

(5) Mary _____ Holsinger (2-10-1797 - 8-25-1870) married Andrew _____ Biddle. They had 3 children.

After Rosanna Freidley Holsinger died George Holsinger married Elizabeth _____ Reichard (1760 - 1808) who was born in Hagerstown, Md. They had 4 children:-

(1) Annie _____ Holsinger (3-10-1803 -) died in infancy.

(2) Daniel R_____ Holsinger (5-25-1805 - 12-15-1902) married Catherine _____ Long. They had 5 children.

(3) Elizabeth _____ Holsinger (9-6-1806 - 8- -1880) married John _____ Longnecker. It was his 2nd marriage. Elizabeth and John had 5 children.

(4) George R_____ Holsinger (8-4-1808 - 1-9-1881) married Susan _____ Myers. They had 2 children.

3. John _____ Baker, son of John and Mary Freidley Baker, was one-time President of Ohio University which is now located at Athens, O.
(NO!) (NOTE: THIS CANNOT BE CORRECT, JOHN BAKER SERVED AS PRES. OF OHIO UNIVERSITY FROM 1945-1961, WELL PAST THE LIFETIME OF THE JOHN BAKER LISTED HERE)

4. Christina _____ Baker, daughter of John and Mary Freidley Baker

5. Great, great Grandmother Catherine (spelling?) _____ Baker Baker (8-8-1778 - 4-5-1863) daughter of John and Mary Freidley Baker was born in Bedford Co., Pa. She married John _____ Baker (6-20-1781 - 7- -1845) who was born in Lancaster Co., Pa. (It is thought his Father's name was Peter) After spending some time in Franklin Co. John came to Morrison's Cove in Bedford Co. in 1805. He was a farmer at Bakers Summit. They were members of the Brethren Church and were buried in the family plot on the Mowery farm. Later they were interred in Keagy Cemetery at Woodbury, Pa. They had 8 children:-

(1) John B_____ Baker (10-1-1810 - 10-13-1846) married Margaret _____ Nicodemus. They had 6 children.

(2) Christina _____ Baker (9-9-1812 - 1-4-1889) married John L_____ Mock. They had 7 children.

(3) Andrew _____ Baker was born about 1814. He married Barbara _____ Mock (or Mack) daughter of John and Susanna (Anna) Longnecker Mock of Martinsburg, Pa. Barbara was born on the Howard Cowen farm near Martinsburg. Her grandparents were Peter and Anna Good Longnecker of Maryland.

Andrew was a farmer. He and Barbara were German Baptist Brethren. They moved to Ohio where he died. They had 3 children:-

a. Samuel _____ Baker had at least 1 child:-

(a) A_____ D_____ Baker of Swanton, Ohio, an inventor and manufacturer of engines and threshing machines.

b. Henry M_____ Baker (- -1839 - 1-26-1922) of Roaring Spring, Pa. married Maria Brandt.

c. Nancy _____ Baker married _____ _____ Fisher. They lived in Ohio.

(4) Peter _____ Baker (10-7-1816 - 4-18-1892) married Mary ____ (Mollie) Snider. They had 12 children:-

a. _____ _____ Baker (a son) lived at Everett, Pa.

b. _____ _____ Baker (a daughter) is a nurse at the Insane Hospital Dunning, Chicago, Ill.

(5) Jacob _____ Baker (10-7-1816 - 1882) married Hannah _____ Snider. They had 4 children. (Notice the Peter above and Jacob were evidently twins)

(6) Mary _____ (Polly) Baker (4-30-1822 -) married Abraham _____ Keagy. They had 7 children.

(7) Elizabeth _____ (Betsy) Baker never married.

(8) Great Grandfather Daniel B_____ Baker (8-13-1819 - 2-9-1865) son of John and Catherine Baker Baker was born at Bakers Summit, Pa. There on January 29th, 1843 he married Catherine _____ (Katie) Smith (6-4-1821 - 3-21-1886) daughter of Henry _____ Smith (8-22-1778 - 11-3-1833) and Mary _____ (Polly) _____ Smith (9- -1775 - 10-12-1851) of Woodbury, Pa. (Smith is spelled Smidt in the German Bible)

Daniel and Catherine Smith Baker owned a farm at Bakers Summit. If the fire went out in the fireplace they either went a mile away to the neighbors for fire, or held a flintlock gun near tinder and shavings and fired it, then by blowing into the shavings a fire got started again. Folks of the area formed caravans and journeyed to Baltimore for supplies.

They were German Baptist Brethren. Grief over the tragic death of his son Frank caused Great Grandfather Baker to lose his mind. They had 8 children:- (Daniel & Catherine Baker are buried in Holsinger Cemetery)

1. Franklin S_____ Baker (2-11-1844 - 9-18-1862) Frank ran away from home to join the Union Army during the Civil War. His father went to Harrisburg, Pa. and persuaded him to return home. Later he left home for the same purpose. His father again went to Harrisburg to see Frank but could not persuade him to return home.

   At the age of 18 yrs. Pvt. Franklin S. Baker of the E. 125th Pa. Infantry was shot on his horse in the battle of Antietam Creek near Sharpsburg, Md. September 17, 1862. Frank died the following day. He was buried on the battle field with the rest of the Union casualties.

   A comrade soldier of Frank's wrote to his father telling about Frank's death and where to find his grave. (Scott Cowen Baker of R.R.# 1, Garrett, Ind. has this letter)

   Great Grandfather Baker and another man went after Frank's body in a spring wagon. They walked part of the way back home because of the strong odor of the dead body. They buried Frank's body in the farm cemetery.

   In the 1920's Uncle Harry W. Baker, Uncle Alvin B. Bechtel and Cousin Howard H. Baker made wooden coffins and moved 4 bodies including Frank's from Great Grandfather's farm cemetery to Holsinger Cemetery at Bakers Summit. In Frank's grave was found only 2 large copper pennies and parts of his army boots.

   The battle of Antietam Creek was under the leadership of Gen. Geo. B. McClellan against Gen. Robert E. Lee. It was one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War. The Union had 75,000 men and the Confederate 40,000 men. The North suffered a loss of 2108 killed and 9540 wounded, and the South 1546 killed and 7752 wounded. Bodies lay like "swaths of grass cut by a scythe". The battle was considered a draw. The following day both armies remained in camp, then Gen. Lee retreated across the Potomac River by night.

   Note:- Many battlefields of the Civil War bear double names. This was a puzzle to me until I read I believe in "Ford Times" magazine this explanation:- "The troops of the North came mainly from cities, towns and villages and were therefore impressed by some natural object near the scene of conflict and named the battle from it. The soldiers from the South were chiefly from the country and were therefore impressed by some artificial object near the field of action. Thus the Northern-named Battle of Antietam was from a stream while the Southern soldiers called it the Battle of Sharpsburg, from the town".

2. Charles S_____ Baker (7-11-1847 - 11-4-1851) son of Daniel B. and Catherine Smith Baker is buried in Holsinger Cemetery.

3. Great Uncle Frederick S_____ Baker (7-3-1845 - 3-8-1875) son of Daniel B. and Catherine Smith Baker was born at Baker Summit, Pa. He married Leah _____ Hollinger. They had 3 children:-
b. 1-5-1840 d. 7-20-1873

(1) Elmer _____ Baker died when 22 or 23 yrs. old, unmarried.

(2) Simon H_____ Baker married Ora _____ Roberts. They had 2 children:- (Simon went to Indiana, married & lived there) and also in Ohio in 1910, Cuyahoga Co.
a. Leah _____ Baker died when she was 2 yrs. old

b. _____ _____ Baker (a son)

(3) John H_____ Baker (1871 - 10- -1921) married Mary Ann Replogle (1869- 1949)

John's father having died very young, John was raised by his Aunt Leah _____ Baker Burger.

Leah Baker Burger was born and raised in Franklin Co., Pa. She was a descendant of the Hessian soldier, Andrew Baker.

Leah made a counterpane (quilt or coverlet) in 1842. It contains red, blue, green and navy blue colors.

Leah named the town of Salemville, Pa. First she named it Salem, meaning peaceful. Then it was found there was another town in Pennsylvania by the same name so the name was changed to Salemville. Ville means town.

Leah's husband John Burger built (or had built) a large brick house on their big farm at New Enterprise in Morrison's Cove in Bedford Co., Pa. As Leah and her husband had no children the farm was willed to John H. Baker.

John was a farmer and he got his hand cut off (I believe in some farm machinery) so he wore an artificial hand. On a return trip to Chicago concerning his hand he looked up Father in Gustavus, Ohio. These 2 families have been beloved friends ever since.

John H. Baker was killed with a threshing machine. They had 6 children:-

a. Berger C_____ Baker (6-21-1893 - 2-25-1976) married Eliza _____ Hoover Sept. 9, 1915 in Altoona, Pa. They lived at Salemville until his father's estate was settled. Berger bought out his brothers and sisters interest in their father's farm at Sylvan Spring, New Enterprise, Pa. and run the farm.

Berger graduated from Juniata College at Huntingdon, Pa. and received his Master of Arts degree in Music from Dana Musical Institute in Warren, Ohio. He was a very talented musician, owning and playing several kinds of musical instruments. He was one-time head of the music dept. at Roosevelt Junior High School and later served as music supervisor at Roaring Spring and Martinsburg High Schools.

Berger is buried in Burger Cemetery at New Enterprise. He and Eliza were members of the Church of the Brethren and had 4 children:-

(a) Jesse Merle Baker (9-23-1916 - - -1972) was born at Salemville, Pa. He attended college 2 yrs. He was a truck driver and farmer. He was a talented woodworker and trumpet player. Blue Printing, water skiing and boating was his delight.

Oct. 1937 Jesse married Pauline _____ Hinton (8-19-1916 -) daughter of Silas and Edith Ebersole Hinton of Salemville. Roses is Pauline's hobby. She & Jesse had 2 children:-

1. Gary Ray Baker (2-28-1939 -) served in the armed forces in Germany. He lives below Bedford, Pa. and has 2 boys.

2. Jay Lynn Baker (7-10-1950 -) lives in Florida and has 1 son.

(b) Irwin Gerald (Jim) Baker (10-18-1920 -) was born at Salemville, Pa. He has 2 Bachelor of Science degrees:- General Science and Mechanical Engineering. He is a Mechanical Engineer and enjoys prospecting. His hobby is Woodworking.

"Jim" received an Air Medal Presidential Unit, Citation CBI Theater and other usual citations awarded Veterans of World War II and the Korean conflict.

Oct. 23, 1942 "Jim" married Mildred Louise Powell (5-19-1919 -) daughter of Calvin P. and Mattie Peak Powell at Montgomery, Ala. Mildred was born at Union Springs, Ala. They have 3 children:-

1. Jon Clay Baker (7-7-1953 -) lives in Seattle, Wash.

2. Grant Cody Baker (5-16-1956 -)

3. Mindy Lou Baker (10-17-1957 -)

(c) John Samuel (Jack) Baker (8-18-1927 -) had a Bachelor of Music degree and was hoping to get his Master of Education degree in Music in 1962. He enjoys playing the trumpet, singing, golf and woodworking.

June 4, 1949 Jack married Marianna _____ Stinnette (1-8-1927 -) daughter of Robert L. and Anna Mary Philley Stinnette of Denver, Colo. She is a school teacher and talented in music. She has an A.B. degree in Biology. They live at New Enterprise & have 2 children:-

1. Larry Robert Baker (8-3-1952 -)

2. Janelle Annette Baker (5-14-1954 -) is married and attends State College.

(d) Joseph Ned (Joe) Baker (10-29-1931 -) His Army record was:- A-P.F.C., US52274193, Korean Conflict, Army Band.

After his military service he took a G.I. course in agri-

culture and settled down to dairy farming at New Enterprise, Pa. He enjoys singing, golf, bowling and crafts.

Sept. 12, 1959 Joe married Gloria Jean Kagarise (10-6-1938 -) daughter of Ross Wilson Kagarise and Esther Pearle Replogle Kagarise of Salemville. She was born in New Enterprise and is a Registered Nurse having received her 3 yrs. Nurse's Training at Mercy Hospital in Altoona, Pa. Designing miniature doll clothes is her hobby. She plays the piano and organ and enjoys bowling.

Joe and Gloria had 3 children before they were divorced in 1972. The children live with Gloria. No data on 2.

1. Kevin Lee Baker (6-27-1960 -)

b. Charles _____ Baker (-) son of John H. and Mary Replogle Baker lives near New Enterprise. He is a music teacher giving private lessons.

c. Harry A_____ Baker (-) son of John H. and Mary Replogle Baker died in a truck accident.

d. Mareda Harriet Baker Litzinger DeJaiffe (2-18-1906 -) daughter of John H. and Mary Replogle Baker was born at Salemville, Pa. She attended Dana Musical Institute in Warren, O. and taught music in Public Schools. She plays the piano and clarinet and is interested in Educational Club Work.

At Altoona, Pa. Aug. 18,1930 Mareda married Robert Raymond Litzinger (3-7-1900 - 1-19-1948) son of Robert and Josephine Litzinger of Ashville, Pa. He studied law and accounting. He was an Accountant and is buried in Ashville Cemetery.

June 1, 1951 Mareda married Raymond DeJaiffe (1-28-1908 -) son of Camille and Mary Baudelet DeJaiffe. He was born in Ginter, Pa. and received his B.S. degree in Civil Engineering.

Raymond served as Major in the U.S. Army Apr. 9, 1942 to Dec. 29, 1945. He is Chief Engineer for Toledo Terminal Railroad. He enjoys bowling and Boy Scouting. He has a grown son Russell by a former marriage. They live in Toledo, Ohio.

Mareda wrote to me, "I shall never forget the nice visits I had at your parents home and the kindness of your wonderful Mother (Mrs. Ross W. Baker)"

e. Rosella _____ Baker Wyles (-) daughter of John H. and Mary Replogle Baker married Paul I_____ Wyles. They live in Stockton, California.

f. Rinard _____ Baker (-) was a twin brother of Rosella.

4. Levi S_____ Baker (5-25-1849 - 3-23-1874) son of Daniel B. and Catherine Smith Baker never married. Buried in Holsinger Cemetery.

5. Amanda S_____ Baker (2-27-1856 - 12-1-1884) daughter of Daniel B. and Catherine Smith Baker was born at Baker Summit, Pa. She visited her brother Mahlon while he was living in Maryland for her health, [illegible] able to help with the housework and milking when

MARRIAGE RECORDS

PAGE, Fredia liv Garrett, IN b 22 September 1896 Hicksville, OH
f James Page b Ohio carpenter liv Garrett, IN
m Elizabeth Blythe b Ohio liv Garrett, IN

BAKER, Henry S. liv Garrett, IN b 10 November 1853 Pennsylvania
white retired farmer 1 prior marriage (div 13 Nov 1914
f Daniel B. Baker b Pennsylvania farmer deceased
m Cathrine Smith b Pennsylvania deceased
married 4 September 1915
MILLER, Sarah O. liv Garrett, IN b 31 October 1851 Ohio
white 1 prior marriage (Steckley d 31 Oct 1903)
f Isiaac Miller b Ohio farmer deceased
m Nancy Scott b Ohio deceased

BUNKIWSKI, Frank liv Garrett, IN b 24 October 1892 Garrett, IN
white car repair 1st marriage
f Frank Bunkiwski b Russia farmer liv Russia
m Techia --- deceased
married 7 September 1915
MALOLEPSZA, Anna liv Garrett, IN b 17 July 1896 Garrett, IN
white 1st marriage
f Joe Malolepsza b Germany turn table man liv Garrett,
m Josephine Christ b Germany liv Cleveland, OH

YOUNG, Clarence C. liv Garrett, IN b 12 September 1893 Holgate, OH
white pipe fitter 1st marriage
f Joseph Young b Ohio car builder liv Garrett, IN
m Jennie Powell b Holgate, OH liv Garrett, IN
married 12 September 1915
LUNG, Anna Ellen liv Auburn, IN b 21 January 1894 DeKalb Co., IN
white 1st marriage
f John H. Lung b Indiana thrisher liv Auburn, IN
m Sarah Falkenburg b Noble Co., IN liv Auburn, IN

DONLEY, Fred H. liv St Joe, IN b 24 January 1890 Ohio
white barber 1st marriage
f Albert Donley b Ohio farmer liv Grand Rapids, MI
m Mary Sebring b Ohio liv St Joe, IN
married 14 September 1915
WILMOT, Mary L. liv St Joe, IN b 14 November 1888 St Joe, IN
white 1st marriage
f Ella Wilmot b Ohio farmer liv St Joe, IN
m Florence Coburn b Indiana liv St Joe, IN

Circuit Court Marriage Records
DeKalb County, Ind.
1910 - 1915

1998

Henry Smith Baker age 62(?)64
Married Aug. 16, 1917
Garrett, Indiana
to
Inez Lang age 50
Born Legonier, Indiana
Father: Noah Lang
Mother: Lucinda (Blote) Lang

Aunt Millie was born. Amanda never married. When 28 yrs. old she died of T.B. She is buried in Holsinger Cemetery.

6. Great Uncle Henry S_____ Baker (11-10-1853 - 12-27-1931) son of Daniel B. and Catherine Smith Baker was born at Bakers Summit, Pa. Dec. 12, 1880 he married Anna E_____ Hollinger (2-27-1851 - 12-26-1936) daughter of Samuel G. and Elizabeth Funk Hollinger. She was born at Mercersburg, Franklin Co., Pa. Annie spent her last days with her daughter Keren. She is buried in Montgomery Brethren in Christ Church Cemetery at Mercersburg.

Henry was a farmer and member of the Brethren Church. In the 1880's they lived near Potter Creek near Jockey John Replogle's farm and mill towards New Enterprise, Pa. Henry died at Waterside, Pa. and is buried in Holsinger Cemetery. He and Annie had 2 children:-

(1) Keren Pearl Baker (10-23-1881 -) married Harry S_____ Burkett (-), a farmer and farm implement salesman. They owned their farm at Piney Creek road north of Martinsburg, Pa. They left the farm when their huge barn burned. They lived lastly at Waterside, Pa. When Harry died Keren went to live with a daughter named Detwyler. Keren and Harry had 8 children:-

a. Howard _____ Burkett (Brothers & sisters names unknown)

(2) Howard H_____ Baker (1-16-1886 - 1959) married Martha _____ Snyder (7-17-1883 - 4-29-1932). Their infant son died Nov. 17, 1910.

Martha and Howard were divorced and he married again. He lived at Piney Creek near Martinsburg. The last I heard he was living at Blanenburg, N. J.

7. Great Uncle Aaron S_____ Baker (11-16-1858 - 7-8-1911) son of Daniel B. and Catherine Smith Baker was born at Bakers Summit, Pa. He was a farmer and school teacher. On Mar. 29, 1881 he married Mary Louise Cowen (10-9-1853 - 12-15-1940) daughter of David N_____ and Elizabeth Croft Cowen of Roaring Spring, Pa.

Their 4 children were born at Roaring Spring. In 1891 the little family moved to a farm near Auburn, Ind.

Aaron divorced Mary in 1893. She and the children returned to Roaring Spring. Mary was a member of the Saints of God. Later in life she returned to Auburn and took her own life with carbolic acid at the age of 87 yrs. Mary is buried in Roaring Spring Cemetery.

Aaron's 2nd marriage was to a widow of a B & O railroad engineer, Mrs. Emma Hartsock of Garrett, Ind. In 2 yrs. or less this marriage also ended in divorce.

Then through the Lonely Hearts Club Aaron secured a 3rd wife, Alice Boston from Illinois. In 5 or 6 yrs. this marriage also ended in divorce. Alice then married George Smith of Garrett.

Finally at the age of 52 yrs. Aaron died and was buried in Union Cemetery northwest of Garrett, Ind.

(1) Homer Cowen Baker (1-4-1882 - 12- -1962) son of Aaron S. and Mary Cowen Baker was born at Roaring Spring, Pa. He married Amanda _____ Mizner of Garrett, Ind.

Homer and Mary joined the House of David sect and gave all they had to this organization including his inheritance. This gave them the privilege of living at the House of David camp at Benton Harbor, Mich. the rest of their days. They took the son Paul with them.

The House of David colony owns considerable land and conducts agricultural operations including the raising and selling of vegetables and peaches. They also cater to tourists and vacationists including many Jews. The members are called Israelites. The men wear long beards. They do not eat or serve any meat because they believe at death human spirits go into animal and other living things. They do not even kill flies as the Bible says "Thou shalt not kill" in Exodus 20:13.

Each member has a certain job to do. Homer Baker was in charge of the cottages. Amanda divorced him and married the hotel manager. When their son Paul Baker became grown he had some connection with the hotel.

Now part of the colony is called the City of David and part is still called the House of David. There is a House of David Park.

(2) LeRoy Cowen Baker (5-16-1883 - 8-17-1973) son of Aaron S. and Mary Cowen Baker was born at Roaring Spring, Pa. He married Louie _____ Hoffman (-) daughter of Mart Hoffman of Auburn, Ind., Nov. 12, 1905. They had 3 children:-

a. Earl Ira Baker (10-5-1914 - 5-29-1931) He drowned.

b. Marie _____ Baker (-) She is a deaconess. The last I knew she was living in Baltimore, Md.

c. Irma _____ Baker Hamman (-) married Donald _____ Hamman (-). They reside in Los Angeles, Cal. and have 3 children.

(3) Ruth Cowen Baker (11-30-1889 - 10-1-1910) attended Valparaiso College at Valparaiso, Ind. She was a talented musician and school teacher. She is buried in Roaring Spring Cemetery.

(4) Scott Cowen Baker (2-17-1885 - 3-21-1962) At Auburn, Indiana Jan. 12, 1929 Scott married Florence Irene McKinley Gerner (11-9-1900 -) daughter of Samuel A. and Lillian Adell Gump McKinley of Garrett, Ind. She was born in Garrett and had a son Robert by her former marriage. Scott too had been previously married and divorced.

Scott was a farmer and B & O Railroad engineer over 50 yrs. Their farm is near Garrett. (I have an air view of this lovel place)

They were members of the Saints of God. Scott and their 2 nd child, Mary Lillie Baker, who died the day she was born Sept. 9, 1935 are buried in Union Cemetery. Florence and Scott had

3 children:-

a. Ralph McKinley Baker (10-24-1932 -) son of Scott C. and Florence Irene McKinley Gerner Baker was born at Garrett, Ind. Sept. 9, 1955 at Cedar, Ind. Ralph married Shirley Ann Dick (3-21-1939 -) daughter of Vern and Daisy Lewis Dick of Ft. Wayne, Ind. She was born at Ft. Wayne.

Ralph is a factory employee. They live near Garrett and are members of the Saints of God. They have 2 children:-

(a) Timothy Wayne Baker (8-21-1956 -)

(b) Abbie Lynn Baker (4-29-1958 -)

b. Betty Mae Baker (7-14-1938 -) daughter of Scott C. and Florence Irene McKinley Gerner Baker was born at Garrett, Ind. Betty attended Indiana University at Bloomington, Ind. and Ft. Wayne Bible College. She teaches music, is a member of the Saints of God, enjoys reading and lives at home.

Great, great Grandfather Henry _____ Smith (8-22-1778 - 11-3-1833) married Mary _____ (Polly) _____ (9- -1775 - 10-12-1851). They lived at Woodbury, Pa. and had at least 5 children:-

1. Jacob _____ Smith (3-2-1803 - 7-7-1863)

2. Frederic _____ Smith (8-3-1808 - 4-5-1858)

3. Esther _____ _____ Miller (2-19-1814 - 6-12-1860) married Martin Miller. (As this lady is listed among Henry Smith's children, I take it that she was also a daughter although the name Smith is not by her name)

4. Great Grandmother Catherine _____ (Katie) Smith Baker (see the Daniel B. Baker records on page 4)

5. Susan (or Susanna) _____ Smith Wells (1824 - 1908) married Jacob _____ Wells (1816 - 1888). They lived south of Altona, Ind. and are buried in Embry's Cemetery. They had 5 children:-

(1) Lewis _____ Wells lived at Garrett, Ind., died and left a family.

(2) Albert _____ Wells

(3) George _____ Wells

(4) Edward _____ Wells

(5) _____ _____ Wells McGee

Henry Smith's 1829 German Family Bible was passed on to his daughter Catherine, hence to her son Aaron S. Baker, then on to his son Scott Cowen Baker. Scott in time gave it to me. Knight and I had it repaired and a new leather cover put on it for $22.00 then gave it to my Father Ross W. Baker. Henry Smidt (the German name for Smith) was printed originally on the front cover. We should have had it printed the same but instead had Henry Smith put on the cover. Please forgive.

Father and Scott C. Baker said the following were 1 st cousins of their

fathers Mahlon and Aaron Baker making them nieces and nephews of Great Grandmother Catherine (Katie) Smith Baker:-

John B. Smith (1837 - 1911) a bachelor is buried in Embry's Cemetery.

Fred Smith (1839 - 1910) married Christenia (1842 - 1916). Their children were:-

1. Henry Smith married Susanna. They lived at Cedar Creek, Ind. and had 5 girls and 2 boys.

2. Norman Smith lived in Michigan.

3. Aaron Smith lived in Michigan.

4. George Smith lived in Michigan.

5. Elnora Smith (1870 - 1925) married William Ballentine (1866 - 1940). He was a little man and Elnora weighed close to 400 lbs. according to Scott Baker who said she was the largest woman he ever saw. They are buried in Embry's Cemetery.

Polly Smith married James Harvey. They had 1 daughter.

Margaret Smith married George Barton.

_____ _____ Smith married Jack Balist.

Another family of Smiths moved from Pennsylvania to Indiana that were 1 st cousins of Mahlon and Aaron Baker. They were:-

Frank Smith lived close to Kimmell, Ind.

David Smith lived near Huntertown, Ind. The following is word for word Scott Baker's story:-

"When they (Frank and David) were small their mother died. Dave, when a boy, run away and got to Chicago. Some one was shipping horses to St. Paul, Minn. so Dave went along. Dave told them he was going farther west. They told him the Indians would get him.

Dave went farther west and was walking along one afternoon when he run into an Indian camp. Before he knew it the young Indians grabbed him. The old chief came out and took him in. They kept Dave 3 years.

When the Civil War between the North and South broke out Dave enlisted. He was a spy in the Army with Buffalo Bill.

Buffalo Bill use to have a big show that traveled over the country. One time it came to Ft. Wayne, Ind. Dave took his boy George Smith and went over to see it. George later told me (Scott Baker) that his father (David Smith) and Buffalo Bill had a big time together."

George Smith, son of David Smith, died Sept. 30, 1961. He and his wife, a cousin of Scott Baker's wife Florence, use to visit Scotts.

The following Smiths were also 1 st cousins of Mahlon and Aaron Baker:-

Charles Smith lived in Michigan and visited Aaron S. Baker's when Scott was about 7 yrs. old.

Samuel Smith lived in Corunna, Ind. He had 8 or more children who carried their lunch to school in a clothes basket. Samuel died of injuries received when bitten by a brood sow with newborn pigs. Some of his children were:-

1. Irvin L. Smith (1856 - 1940) married Savannah Schoff (1862 - 1925). They lived in Garrett, Ind.

2. Grant Smith

3. Harry Smith

4. Oliver Smith

5. Lona Smith married _____ _____ Breckbill.

6. Mary Smith married Joseph Badiac. They lived at Huntertown, Ind.

Great, great Grandfather _____ _____ Miller (-) married Great, great Grandmother _____ _____ _____ (-). He was a farmer and had some bees at Fishertown, Pa.

He made his daughter Nancy a pair of shoes to be worn on either foot and instructed her to change them around often so as not to run them over. Not doing as commanded she was sharply reprimanded. The shoe tops were bull hide, heels iron and soles of leather with hickory pegs. He made Grandfather Baker a pair of gauntlet driving gloves "so the wind would not blow up his sleeves".

He had a hog which he intended to butcher. Great, great Grandmother Miller went to feed the hog and found a bear straddle the hog's back. She rushed to the house, obtained a black 3 legged kettle full of boiling water and threw it into the face of the bear. Becoming blinded by the hot water the bear could not find it's way out of the hog pen. Great, great Grandmother hurried to a neighbor's place, told her story and the neighbor went and shot the bear and also the wounded hog. Great Grandmother told Uncle Harry W. Baker of eating bear and hog sausage.

Great, great Grandfather and great, great Grandmother Miller are buried at Schellsburg, Pa. They had at least 2 children:-

1. Michael _____ Miller (5-24-1838 - 3-11-1914) is buried in the church yard at Fishertown.

2. Great Grandmother Nancy _____ Miller Walker Feaster (1-16-1830 - 9-13-1919) was born at Fishertown, Pa. She was a Lutheran. John _____ Walker (-), a farmer, lived only 3 months with Nancy. They had 1 child:-

   (1) Grandmother Emma Jane (Jennie) Walker Baker (3-1-1853 - 9-11-1907)

   Note:- See Mahlon Smith Baker record on page 14 plus my Father's Autobiography.

   Great Grandmother Nancy Miller Walker went to work in Brooklyn, N.Y. She consorted with _____ _____ Feaster. They had 1 child:-

   (1) Katie _____ Feaster Imler (-) married George Imler [illegible] a Woodbury, Pa. farmer

and Justice of the Peace. My Father said Geo. Imler was a conservative and prosperous man. They lived on his 18 A. farm and owned another which he rented out.

Katie was his 2 nd wife. She is buried in Dry Hill Cemetery in Woodbury. They had 8 children:-

a. Myra _____ Imler Richards (-) lives at Woodbury, Pa.

b. Josephine _____ Imler Fagley (-) She and her husband Rafe W_____ Fagley (-) separated and neither remarried. He is dead now. They had 1 child:-

(a) Marian _____ Fagley (-) lives with her mother in Columbus, Ohio.

c. Margaret _____ Imler Gray (-) lives in Pittsburgh, Pa.

d. Robert L _____ Imler (-) lives in Tulsa, Okla. He is now retired from being an Attorney for Sinclair Oil Co.

e. Grover _____ Imler (-) lives in Coatesville, Pa.

f. Canning _____ Imler (-) is now dead

g. Clair _____ Imler (-) died at the age of 16 yrs.

h. Harper _____ Imler (- 12-8-1959) lived in California.

After Great Grandmother Nancy Miller Walker's 2 girls were grown Feaster came to Pennsylvania and married Nancy to have a good home in his old age.

8. Grandfather Mahlon Smith Baker (7-2-1851 - 8-24-1890) son of Daniel B. and Catherine (Katie) Smith Baker was born at Bakers Summit, Pa. He married Emma Jane (Jennie) Walker (3-1-1853 - 9-11-1907) daughter of John _____ Walker and Nancy _____ Miller Walker (later Feaster).

Note:- I shall not go into every detail concerning my grandparents life because Father tells most in his Autobiography, however I am mentioning a few details and extra things which he told me but forgot to put in his account.

Grandmother "Jennie" Baker was born and raised in Fishertown, Pa. Grandfather Baker was a farmer and a Republican. They were members of the Brethren Church and are buried in Union Cemetery at Garrett, Ind. They had 7 children:-

(1) Harry Walker Baker (9-5-1876 - 1-14-1957) see page 19

(2) Cora Walker Baker (6-24-1878 - 7-12-1878) was born at Bakers Summit, Pa. and is buried in Holsinger Cemetery.

(3) Ross Walker Baker (10-2-1879 - 5-12-1975) BURIED IN GREENE TWP. OHIO see Autobiography

(4) Anna Gertha Baker (11-17-1881 - 7-10-1882) was born at Bakers Summit, Pa. She died of cholera infantum. Buried in Holsinger.

(5) Permilla Amanda (Millie) Baker Hurni Hall Moughler (7-18-1883 - 1982) see page 20

(6) Elnora Walker (Nora) Baker Bechtel (2-14-1886 - 8- -1981) see page 25 BURIED IN WOODBURY, PENNSYLVANIA

(7) Benjamin Harrison Baker (9-9-1888 - 11-8-1906) was born at Garrett, Ind. He died of T.B. and is buried in Union Cemetery beside his parents.

A little wooden cradle which my Father had was made especially for him. Aunt Gertha, Aunt Millie, Aunt Nora and Uncle Benny were also rocked in that cradle besides all of our family.

Father gave Grandmother Baker's small rocker, which she and Mother used to rock their babies to sleep, to his granddaughter Marlene Davis Acus after he had it recaned with man-made cane.

I have a small piece of linen which was originally part of a bed sheet. Grandmother Baker spun the flax and wove the cloth for that sheet. When it could no longer be used for the purpose it was intended Aunt Nora took a good part of it and made it into a beautiful square parlor stand cover with hand hemstitched hem and design. It was given to my parents and we enjoyed it for years.

Father's bureau and red Pennsylvania Dutch chest were his Father's.

While Father was still a babe in arms Grandfather Baker took his little family for a visit a few miles away. Uncle Harry said they had to ford a creek along the way. Near the creek was a dead tree. A bear was near the top of the tree reaching into a hole which he had enlarged to get to the wild honey it contained. Bees would sting the bear here and there. He would growl and continue his feast. On their return home the bear was gone. The hole in the tree had been enlarged to about 2 ft. diameter and only a few bees still swarmed about the tree.

Not long after seeing the bear, the horse came to a sudden halt. Upon investigation a rattle snake was found coiled ready to strike about 5 feet in front of the horse. Grandfather broke the snake's back by throwing a flat stone upon it, then finished killing it with more stones. He cut off the 9 rattles and kept them for years even moving them to Maryland and Indiana.

On another trip Uncle Harry saw a rail fence built into the creek water. Wondering why, he observed geese in the pen. They had on yokes somewhat like a sling shot tied together at the top with a piece of leather so they could not get through or under the fence.

Grandfather Baker took a trip to Wichita, Kansas to consider buying a farm probably because the cry in those days was, "Go west, young man, go west". However he did not buy there because "it was too wild, dusty and windy".

Father was only 3 yrs. and 5 mo. old when his folks moved to Maryland yet Father remembered Tippy on the train.

The little wagon Father and Uncle Harry got for Christmas was never left outdoors over night. They had fun with it for years.

The house where Father was born was destroyed by fire years later.

Besides the Percheron stallion Grandfather Baker shipped a team of horses and 2 cows to Maryland.

There were over 2000 peach trees on the Maryland farm. Fish was put in the hills of corn for fertilizer.

The 2 nd year spent in Maryland Grandfather Baker did some general team work including hauling fruit to market and hauling oyster shells to burn for fertilizer.

Through correspondence with a cousin, Fred Smith, Grandfather Baker decided to go to Indiana to live.

In December 1885 Grandfather Baker bought the John Haag farm of 40 A. south of Garrett, Ind. for $2800.00. It had a good barn.

After the house was completed, before the sawdust was cleaned off the floor, Grandfather Baker and the builder, John Haag (with beard and glasses), started to paper a room. Mr. Haag had spent considerable time that forenoon making a table to paste the paper on. They were talking in Pennsylvania Dutch and having a good time. Instead of starting with the ceiling they started putting a strip on the side wall. It fell down in the sawdust and got all dirty so it had to be thrown away. Their good time ended with the accident and swearing began. They had the second strip on when Grandmother Baker came in to call them to dinner. She discovered they had put a strip of ceiling paper on the side wall. That ended Mr. Haag's help. Harmon Sithen was hired to finish the paper hanging.

Although Mr. Haag was a poor paper hanger he was an excellent carpenter and woodworker. Father visited his workshop and observed all his tools were very sharp.

Father gave me a picture of my grandparents house that Mr. Haag built. It has been covered over with asbestos siding. The picture shows an apple tree broken over but still living in front of the house.

Grandmother Baker hired Mr. Haag to make a solid walnut round parlor table with drawer for $5.00. The table came into Father's possession when his parents passed away. My sister Belva refinished this beautiful antique table.

Grandfather Baker was cultivating corn with 1 horse when he sent Father to town for tobacco. Uncle Harry could not go with him because he had to uncover the corn that got clods of dirt on them. On the way back Father cut a plug off of his father's chewing tobacco for himself. When he handed the newly purchased plug to his father, he just gave Father a stern look. Father both chewed and smoked from the time he was 8 yrs. old until he was 10 yrs. old.

When children the boys were not allowed to touch a razor, revolver or matches. Father swiped a razor for his 1 st shave.

When Father was 8 yrs. old he was walking on top of a rail fence holding on to a dead limb of a tree when all of a sudden the limb broke throwing him to the ground. The fall broke his left arm bone complete-

ly off just above the wrist. Grandfather took him to Dr. Thompson who set it and bandaged it to a board. He was told to return in 6 weeks to have the board removed. When the bone began to knit his arm hurt so he couldn't sleep. As Father lay in bed moaning "Oh, my, oh", Uncle Harry, who was trying to sleep with him, said "Oh my buck". That is all the sympathy Harry gave. At the end of the 6 weeks they again went to see Dr. Thompson and he pronounced the bone O.K. The charge was $10.00.

When the boys went swimming when they should have been in church, Father told me he and Uncle Harry got a licking from their Mother when they got home. He said he could remember only one licking from his father but his mother licked him 2000 times for no reason! (I believe that is the reason I had a good Father. Spare the rod and spoil the child. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it". Prov. 22:6)

In the late 1880's salt was bought for $1.00 per bbl. This was used for both house and farm. It had dirt on top from poor storage. When needed for table and cooking they just dug down! Henry Smith used his team to haul the salt from Cedar Creek, Ind.

Grandfather Baker took his wheat to the water mill to be ground and brought back his own flour and bran in cotton bags.

The ax with which Grandfather Baker cut his foot was double-bladed. Father kept that ax the rest of his life.

When Grandfather Baker died he left a $700.00 mortgage on the farm at 7 % interest. It took Grandmother the rest of her life to pay off the mortgage along with raising her children.

Father's Uncle Aaron moved to Indiana soon after Grandfather Baker died. He soon went to see his widowed sister-in-law, Grandmother Baker. During this visit he said, "Jennie, you can't raise those boys - just send them to the house of correction", meaning his nephews Uncle Harry and Father.

From then on Aaron took a little interest (for better or for worse) in his deceased brother's family. He bought a mare named Flora for Grandmother Baker - her paying for it of course. Flora had crooked legs but she would work. She had 1 colt.

At one time Great Uncle Aaron made a deal for Father in which 2 sheep were bought for $1.75 a piece. One had 2 lambs the first year and the other never had any. One yearling lamb yielded 14 lbs. of wool which sold for $1.68 at Auburn. ($.12 per lb.) Most yearlings yield 6 lbs. of wool the first year.

One time Father's cousin Fred Smith took one of Grandmother Baker's horses to work and to sell. He took good care of it but the buyer Jewed (bargained sharply) Grandmother down to $75.00 from $100.00.

When Father was 12 yrs. old he gathered black walnuts with Uncle Harry and their cousin Simon Baker. They hauled their wagon load of unhulled walnuts to Garrett where Father got $3.50 as his share.

When Uncle Harry started working away from home Father took over the responsibilities of his Mother's farm. He worked there 3 yrs. until he finished his elementary schooling for his board. His clothes were bought with money earned by day work in the neighborhood and raising a

few sheep.

At Manchester College Father worked his way by carrying mail 6 days a week from college to the Post Office 1 ½ miles away. Last I knew this college was still being used.

The pond on the the Ober farm near Cedar Creek in which Father was baptized was man made that ice might form on it in the winter, then be cut into about 50 lb. blocks and hauled in an open sled to the ice house. The ice was used in the summer to keep food cool.

Ober's pond was fed by a spring and had an outlet. This fact is very important as the Brethren Church require baptismal water to be running water.

The present Cedar Creek Brethren Church located on County Road # 7 use to be a blacksmith shop.

When Father had to quit college because of his health at the age of 19 yrs. he lived an outdoor life until his health improved. Then to to earn some extra money he hauled gravel. Some Gypsies came along and talked Father into trading even his Mother's 3 yr. old colt, Rock, which he had raised for her, for a Gypsy mare which they said was bred to a Belgian stallion in Illinois. This statement helped Father to make his decision as he had always wanted a Belgian horse.

Even though Father loved horses he told me he would have been better off if he had never seen one. Father said his Mother should have killed him for trading off her good colt.

The Gypsy horse could not work at all before a storm because of the heaves (breath with effort; pant). At other times she would work a little but she ate and ate - hay and bedding - then would paw until she got some more to eat.

The horse they got in trade for the Gypsy horse plus $7.00 the following spring would fall down when he had a fit (a sudden acute attack or manifestation of a disease).

Father so hated Gypsies hence forth that when some came along and enquired which way some of their band turned at a corner Father told them the opposite direction. He often wondered how long it took the band to get together again.

Father had his Mother's horse, Old Kate, shod at Henry Shenk's village blacksmith shop. Henry still remembered Father 35 yrs. later at the age of 83 yrs.

Old Kate had twins but one died. The other was traded to O. C. Clark for old Jim and $5.00 to boot.

When Father was 21 yrs. old he bought a "Butler Record" 92 gear orange colored bicycle from Uncle Harry for $15.00. Father paid $8.00 to have it baked enameled maroon color. He got all hot and sweaty learning to ride it one Sunday morning and sat down on the steps to rest. Father caught a real cold and lost his voice for 3 days although he carried cough syrup in his pocket and swigged it every little bit. The love for the bicycle waned.

Father traded the bicycle plus $2.50 to boot for an Illinois gold pocket watch which his cousin Stewart Spurgeon had bought at a pawn

shop. Stewart wanted money to go West. He had a buyer for the bicycle but could not sell the watch because prospective buyers thought the teen-ager had stolen it. My Mother's cousin Elroy Wildeson bought the bicycle and still had it in his old age.

Father ordered a chain for his newly acquired watch from Montgomery Ward's for $2.50. He kept this handsome watch in good running order all his long life.

One of Father's jobs was driving a team and handling brick, pitching them off the wagon and laying them to build pavement at Garrett, Ind. This street was later covered with asphalt. Father received $1.50 for a 10 hr. day.

Father worked about 6 mo. in the winter of 1902 and 1903 for the B and O Railroad in the cab shop.

This is out of chronological order but let us think back for a moment to Father's childhood days which he did not mention in his writings.

Father watched my Mother's Uncle Thomas Hall slaughter hogs. This appealed to him so Father slaughtered mice and frogs then skinned them. For this reason the family and his friends called him Butch.

From a child Father loved horses but was not permitted to get near them until Grandfather Baker died, then Uncle Harry made him a lackey.

Father would hitch up the cats together to do some "logging" but had no luck in getting them to work. Tippy the dog would work. He made wagons and sleds for the cats and Tippy.

Like other children when Father was 6 yrs. old he started to Schopf School, a 1 room brick building with 1 teacher. Father liked to play baseball there.

This school was later abandoned when the number of pupils dwindled down to 5 or 6 attending regular. Later this school was enlarged and used again because there were more pupils.

X Uncle Harry Walker Baker (9-5-1876 - 1-14-1957) son of Mahlon Smith Baker and Emma Jane (Jennie) Walker Baker was born at Bakers Summit, Pennsylvania.

He attended Valparaiso University 2 ½ yrs. He took an academic or High School course there. He earned his way by acting as a waiter and manager of a boarding club of 125 pupils. He collected the money from the students, bought the food and paid all the bills.

Then he attended George Dodge's Institute of Telegraphy at Valparaiso, Ind. 7 months. They gave him a life tuition of $35.00.

Uncle Harry was a telegraph operator for Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad and the B & O Railroad.

In 1900 he became manager for the Western Union Telegraph Co. at Chicago, Ill. There he met Cora Clara Schlonga (11-26-1884 - 8-6-1944) a telegraph operator. They were married Aug. 27, 1910. They lived at Villa Park of greater Chicago and had 2 children.

Uncle Harry attended Bennett Medical College night school 3 years.

In 1908 Uncle Harry went nights to Chicago Law School and graduated in 1911 with a Bachelor of Law Degree. He was a member of Delphi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity.

He took an examination at Springfield, Ill. and was admitted to the Bar in 1911. Later he took postgraduate work and received his Master of Law Degree.

Uncle Harry organized a Rotary Club and was its treasurer from 1916 to 1920. (The Rotary Club was organized in Chicago in 1905 and is devoted to service to the community and to the advance of world peace) He also organized a Lions International Club.

He was Mayor of Villa Park, Ill. from 1919 to 1925. He was County Judge of DuPage County, Ill. 1928 to 1936. At the same time he was House Attorney for Western Union Telegraph Co.

In 1946 Uncle Harry married his boyhood school teacher Bertha _____ _____ (- 12-12-1964).

My oldest sister was named for her because Bertha was a beloved teacher also of my Mother and Father.

Uncle Harry and Bertha lived in her home in Mishawaka, Ind. happily until he asked her to put her property jointly in his and her name. This issue caused a parting of their ways for the rest of their lives but they never did get a divorce. He lived at least part of the remainder of his life in a Chicago Hotel and died in the Masonic Home in Chicago of a cerebral hemorrhage.

Bertha died following an accident between a car and a truck. The collision caused the truck to go out of control and it struck Bertha. She lived only a few days.

1. Harry Walker Baker II (3-19-1912 - 1-13-1973) son of Harry Walker Baker and Cora Clara Schlonga of Villa Park, Ill. He married Mollie _____ Mauter (-). Harry Jr. had charge of a Picture Theater. He died of a cancerous brain tumor. They lived at Elmhurst, Ill. and had 2 children:-

   (1) Harry Walker Baker III (10-24-1945 -) got married in 1972.

   (2) Holly _____ Baker

2. Florence Marie Baker Ehardt (10-26-1917 -) daughter of Harry Walker Baker and Cora Clara Schlonga of Villa Park, Ill. She married Arthur L_____ Ehardt (-). They live at Berwyn, Ill. and have 1 child:-

   (1) Melodie _____ Ehardt (1-29-1946 -)

X Aunt Permilla Amanda (Millie) Baker Hurni Hall Moughler (7-18-1883 - -1982)daughter of Mahlon Smith Baker and Emma Jane (Jennie) Walker Baker was born on a farm near Ridgely, Caroline Co., Maryland.

On Dec. 7, 1901 she married Alfred Leroy (Alf) Hurni (12-28-1876 - 1-27-1947) son of Samuel and Jane Anderson Hurni of De Kalb Co., Ind. At the time of their marriage he was living at LaOtto, Ind. Uncle Alf was a farmer in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana respectively.

He went with Father and the real estate man, John Mauger, (owner of a

meat market) to see our future Gustavus, Ohio farm. Before returning to Indiana they went to see Niagara Falls.

Aunt Millie and Uncle Alf had 5 children and then he left her for another woman, Josephine Shull. Uncle Alf moved to Trumbull Co., Ohio and is buried in Greenlawn Cemetery in Greene Twp.

On Nov. 1, 1924 Aunt Millie married Mother's cousin Charles Howard Hall (4-14-1879 - 9-16-1944) son of Thomas Hall Jr. and Laura Wyant Hall of St. Johns, Ind.

Howard was a widower, his 1st wife, Lola Carson having died a few years previous. Lola, the daughter of Frank Carson, was a school teacher. Lola and Howard had 2 sons, Merle and Maynard, who were grown by the time of their father's 2nd marriage so they did not live in the home. However Howard's father did live with Howard and Aunt Millie until he died.

Uncle Howard was a mail carrier and merchant in De Kalb Co., Ind. He is buried with his family in Cedar Chapel Cemetery at Cedar, Ind.

When Aunt Millie broke up housekeeping she gave the large Hall Family Bible to a church north of Butler, Ind. She still has Thomas Hall's clock.

Aunt Millie became a professional cook and worked as head cook at Potawatomi Inn in Pokagon State Park, Angola, Ind. The Inn serves 300 to 350 guests who come to the park to enjoy the lake facilities and to rest. It is a favorite honeymoon resort.

At Garrett, Ind. on Nov. 22, 1947 Aunt Millie married Earl Cassius Moughler (7-26-1879 - 3-19-1963) son of Valentine Byron Moughler and Emily Steckley Moughler of Garrett.

This was Uncle Earl's 2nd marriage, his 1st wife having died leaving no children. He was a retired railroad machinist and florist. He was a member of the IOOF Lodge and Aunt Millie a member of the Rebekah Lodge. They lived in Garrett and were members of the Presbyterian Church. He is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Auburn, Ind.

Aunt Millie still lives where she and Uncle Earl lived in Garrett, Ind.

1. Willard Leroy Hurni (6-14-1903 -) son of Alfred L. and Millie Baker Hurni was born near Grand Ledge, Mich.

   On Sept. 29, 1921 he married Olive Odessa (Dessie) Mettert (9-29-1904 -) daughter of Henry S. and Cora Della Hook Mettert was born at Paulding, Ohio. Willard and Dessie were married at Hillsdale, Mich.

   Willard is a retired mechanic. He was Clerk-Treasurer at St. Joe, Ind. when the city bought the unkept 6 A. of land which is now known as Wild Cherry Park. The following year Willard was selected to build the park and with the help of others he did. In appreciation for his planning and actual work of building a foot bridge, sheltered picnic tables, etc. besides helping maintain the park, the Board named the Park's largest building Hurni Pavilion.

   The family belongs to the Church of Christ and Willard enjoys teaching the Scriptures. His hobby is delving into local history and local geology. They have 4 children:-

(1) Maurice Leroy Hurni (3-1-1924 -) son of Willard L. and Dessie Mettert Hurni was born near St. Joe, Ind.

During World War II he served in the U.S. Air Force as Sergeant.

Oct. 30, 1943 at Oakland, Cal. Maurice married Marcella Furnish daughter of Paul and Olive Furnish of Spencerville, Ind. Later they were divorced. They had no children.

At Laporte, Ind. on Aug. 20, 1949 Maurice married Doris Ann Hostetler (6-6-1929 -) daughter of Kenneth and Dorothy Hostetler of Westville, Ind. She attended Business School.

Maurice is an operator on the railroad and enjoys farming and fishing. Doris and Maurice live at Union Mills, Ind. and have 4 children:-

a. Steven Leroy Hurni (10-16-1950 -)

b. David Allen Hurni (3-29-1952 -)

c. Michael James Hurni (2-10-1955 -)

d. Susan Gail Hurni (6-29-1958 -)

(2) Leila Mae Hurni Moore (12-16-1922 -) daughter of Willard L. and Dessie Mettert Hurni was born near Hicksville, O.

She plays the piano and loves the outdoors. On Oct. 23, 1948 at St. Joe, Ind. Leila married Paul A. Moore (10-12-1921 -) son of Enos G. and Lola B. Moore of Spencerville, Indiana.

Paul was born at Hicksville, Ohio. During World War II he was a Sergeant in the U.S. Army Air Force. He is a mechanic. He enjoys sports and helping others.

Leila and Paul live at St. Joe, Ind. and have 1 child:-

a. Rowena Ann Moore (11-3-1950 -)

(3) Lois Jean Hurni Shockley (1-9-1926 -) daughter of Willard L. and Dessie Mettert Hurni was born at Hicksville, O.

At St. Joe, Ind. on Apr. 24, 1948 Lois married Hearsel Smith Shockley (3-21-1925 -) son of Katherine and Hearsel Clarence Shockley of Spencerville, Ind.

Hearsel was born at Blountsville, Ind. He served in the U.S. Navy as Aviation Machinist Mate 3rd Class. He is a supervisor, enjoys sports and has vocal talent.

Lois and Hearsel live in St. Joe, Ind. and have 3 children:-

a. Nanette Kay Shockley (5-25-1949 -)

b. Nila Sue Shockley (11-5-1951 -)

c. Douglas Duane Shockley (3-31-1956 -)

(4) Barbara Ann Hurni Timmerman (1- -1935 -) daughter of Willard L. and Dessie Mettert Hurni was born at St. Joe, Ind.

There on Dec. 4, 1954 Barbara married Howard Richard Timmerman (5-11-1933 -) son of Marjorie and Charles Allen Timmerman.

Howard was born at Spencerville, Ind. He served as a Corporal in the U.S. Army Airborne.

Barbara was an office worker. Howard is a factory worker. He enjoys sports and flowers. They live at Spencerville, Ind. and have 2 children:-

a. Pamela Ann Timmerman (3-31-1956 -)

b. Diane Kay Timmerman (6-19-1960 -)

2. Belva Maurine Hurni Davis (9-10-1905 -) daughter of Alfred Leroy and Millie Baker Hurni was born at Grand Ledge, Mich.

At Garrett, Ind. Aug. 16, 1921 Belva married Paul John Davis (7-28-1900 - 12-1-1956) son of John E. and Bernice Davis of Greene Twp., Trumbull Co., Ohio. They were childhood neighbors in Ohio.

Paul was born in De Kalb Co., Ind. He was a member of the Elk Lodge and enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was a mechanic specializing in truck repair. At the time he died of a heart attack Paul was owner and business manager of Alliance Motors, Inc. which sold Packard automobiles and repaired both cars and big trucks. He is buried in Fairmont Cemetery in Alliance, Ohio.

Belva attends the Christian Church. Her fraternal affiliations are: Eastern Star, Ladies Elks Auxiliary, Amaranth.

Belva and Paul's home was in Alliance, O. and they had 3 children:-

(1) Marjorie Ellen Davis Biddinger (9-8-1923 - 2-7-1947) was born in Warren, Ohio. She was a stenographer. On May 7, 1942 she married Ralph S. Biddinger (12-24-1909 - 2-7-1947) son of Ernest and Jessie Biddinger.

Ralph was an office clerk. During World War II he was U.S. Army Signal Corporal and served 3 mo. overseas in the European Theatre.

Marjorie and Ralph had 2 children. The whole family burned to death one night in an upstairs apartment in Ashland, Ohio.

a. Jere Allen Biddinger (3-14-1943 - 2-7-1947) burned to death.

b. James Edwin (Jimmie) Biddinger (7-4-1946 - 2-7-1947) burned to death. (The whole family are buried at Nova, Ohio)

(2) Harold Lee Davis (4-3-1926 -) was born in Warren, O.

During World War II he was Sergeant in the U.S. Army. He is a Mason and attends the Christian Church.

Aug. 27,1945 Harold married Dorothy _____ Griffin (-) daughter of Thomas Griffin of California. She was a Private Secretary. They had 1 child then got a divorce.

Dec. 26, 1953 Harold Davis married Joan _____ Graff (-) daughter of Gus and Belle Graff. She was a divorcee. She is Organist in the Catholic Church and belongs to Knights of Columbus Auxiliary.

Harold is the present owner and business manager of his Father's former business.

Joan and Harold have 1 child. They live in Alliance, Ohio.

a. Timothy Lee Davis (4-22-1949 -) son of Harold L. and Dorothy Griffin Davis was born in Los Angeles, Cal. and raised there by his mother.

b. Deborah _____ Davis (7-28-1954 -) daughter of Harold L. and Joan Graff Davis was born in Alliance, O.

(3) Beverly Ann Davis Barnard (7-29-1935 -) daughter of Paul J. and Belva Hurni Davis

On Feb. 14, 1954 Beverly married Richard Wesley Barnard (-) son of John and Ruth Irene Repp Barnard. He is a machinist and draftsman and enjoys hunting and fishing.

Until Beverly started to raise her little family she was her Father's bookkeeper and stenographer. She collects paper napkins.

Beverly and Richard live in Alliance, O., attend the Evangelical United Brethren Church, and have 1 child:-

a. Suzette Lynn Barnard (7-7-1957 -)

3. Kenneth Floyd Hurni (7-10-1909 - 5-18-1910) son of Alfred L. and Millie Baker Hurni was born at Grand Ledge, Mich. He is buried in Greenlawn Cemetery, Greene Twp., Trumbull Co., Ohio.

4. Harry Dale Hurni (6-8-1911 -) son of Alfred L. and Millie Baker Hurni, was born in Gustavus Twp., Trumbull Co., Ohio.

On Sept. 16, 1933 Dale married Vera Marie Crabill (3-3-1906 -) daughter of Alva and Carrie Crabill of De Kalb Co., Ind. She was a school teacher. They belonged to the Church of Christ. After they had 3 children Dale left Vera for another woman.

On Jan. 2, 1954 Dale married Evelyn _____ Martin (2-28-19 -) daughter of Jay and Louise Stayer Martin of Auburn, Ind.

Dale is a Foundry superintendent. He and his 2nd wife enjoy bowling. They live in Auburn, Ind. There were no children to Dale's 2nd marriage.

(1) Judith Ann Hurni Marthin (5-27-1934 -) daughter of Dale and Vera Crabill Hurni

Judith married Albert _____ Marthin (- They had 2 children and separated.

a. Debra Ann Marthin (2-8-1956 -)

b. Cynthia Lou Marthin (6-4-1957 -)

(2) Gale Wayne Hurni (4-14-1938 -) daughter of Dale and Vera Crabill Hurni

(3) Joe Allen Hurni (10-5-1941 -) son of Dale and Vera Crabill Hurni

5. Dola May Hurni Silberg (12-26-1917 -) daughter of Alfred L. and Millie Baker Hurni

On April 1, 1938 Dola married Garth S. Silberg (6-16-1906 -) son of Susan and Garth Samuel Silberg of Auburn, Ind.

Garth was born in Spencerville, Ind. He is a truck driver and Dola is Manager of a Shoe Store. They live in Auburn, Ind., attend the Lutheran Church, and have 2 children:-

(1) Sandra Kay Silberg Warner (2-9-1939 -)

On Dec. 10, 1960 at Auburn, Ind. Sandra married Richard Warner (3-10-1938 -) son of Vern and Ethel Buttons Warner of Garrett, Ind.

Richard was in the U.S. Service 6 mo. and belongs to the Reserves. Sandra is an office clerk. They live in Auburn, Ind.

(2) Steven Garth Silberg (2-21-1943 -)

X Aunt Elnora Walker (Nora) Baker Bechtel (2-14-1886 - 8- -1971) daughter of Mahlon Smith Baker and Emma Jane (Jennie) Walker Baker was born on a farm south of Garrett, Ind.

She attended High School 1 yr., Manchester College at North Manchester, Ind. 1 yr. and 2 terms of Summer Normal School. Aunt Nora taught in Public School at Woodbury, Pa.

On Mar. 9, 1910 Aunt Nora married Alvin B. Bechtel (- 3-24-1957) at Altoona, Pa. His parents were Michael and Elizabeth Bechtel.

Uncle Alvin did painting and interior decorating. He attended the Brethren Church and enjoyed ballgames. He is buried in Dry Hill Cemetery at Woodbury, Pa.

BURIED IN WOODBURY, PA.

Aunt Nora still lives in Woodbury and is a member of the Brethren Church. She and Uncle Alvin had 6 children:-

1. Laverne Elizabeth Bechtel (-)

2. Ivan Walter Bechtel (9-9-1911 - July, 1993) was born at Woodbury, Pa. At Altoona, Pa. in 1933 Ivan married Mavis Jones (11-12-1915 -) daughter of D. Jasper Jones and Rosina Salmon Jones.

Mavis was born in Wales, the SW part of Great Britain. She attended Kent State University 3 years and was a school teacher. (The University is located at Kent, Ohio)

Ivan was a foreman, probably now retired. He and Mavis live in Warren, Ohio and are members of the United Church of Christ. They had 2 children:-

(1) Kathryn Ann Bechtel Watterson (10-23-1933 -) daughter of Ivan Walter Bechtel and Mavis Jones Bechtel was born at Warren, Ohio.

On June 17, 1955 at the First Evangelical & Reformed Church in Warren, Kathryn married James _____ Watterson (7-20-1932 -) son of William Boyd Watterson and Lillian Godfrey Watterson of Shaker Heights, O. He was born at Little Rock, Arkansas.

Kathryn graduated from St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing at Cleveland, O. She is a Registered Nurse. She worked in the office of a Cleveland Pediatrician (a children's doctor). She is a Methodist.

James received his B.S. degree at Case Institute of Technology in Cleveland,O. and Bachelor of Law degree at George Washington University at Washington D.C.

He served as 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force.

James is a Patent Attorney. He is a Presbyterian and enjoys golf, tennis, photography, hunting and fishing.

Kathryn and James live in Pittsburgh, Pa. and have 2 children:-

a. William Boyd Watterson II (7-5-1958 -)
NOTE: BILL WATTERSON IS A CARTOONIST — CREATOR OF "CALVIN AND HOBBES" COMIC STRIP
b. Thomas James Watterson (1-28-1960 -)

(2) Ivan William Bechtel (3-3-1935 - 12-14-1968) son of Ivan Walter Bechtel and Mavis Jones Bechtel was born at Warren, Ohio.

At Sharon, Pa. Nov. 2, 1957 he married Mary Jo Brittain (10-22-1935 -) daughter of Joseph and Mary Alexander Brittain. She was born at Fredonia, Pa. and is a graduate nurse. She is Methodist.

Ivan received his B.S. degree in Industrial Technology at Kent State University at Kent, O. He was design engineer 7½ yrs. for the Herr Equipment Corp. in Warren, Ohio. He was a member of the United Church of Christ.

He took his basic U.S.A.F. training at Lackland Air Force Base and his navigator's training at James Connally Air Force Base in Waco, Tex. He went into active service in February 1958.

Ivan was navigator on a C130 Hercules cargo plane at Seward AF Base in Tennessee and made flights to Europe, Panama and Puerto Rico after he went into active service.

Capt. Ivan W. Bechtel, a U.S. Air Force reservist and navigator of the twin-engine C119 Flying Boxcar (a cargo plane), was on a routine over water navigational training mission (required each year to maintain his rank) from Youngstown Air Reserve Base at Vienna, O. Airport to Roosevelt Roads Naval Air Station in Puerto Rico and back when the Flying Boxcar crashed on its return trip in bad weather into the side of a mountain in the tropical rain forest of the El Yunque Mts. 23 miles southeast of San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The Youngstown Air Force Reserve Base and the 910th Tactical

Air lift Group of which he was a member planned special services for Capt. Bechtel and the other 7 men that perished with him.

Ivan and Mary lived in Howland outside of Warren, O. They had 2 children:-

a. William Paul Bechtel (7-11-1959 -)

b. Diane Lynn Bechtel (9-12-1960 -)

3. John Ross Bechtel (-) son of Alvin B. and Nora Baker Bechtel, lives at Gettysburg, Pa.

4. Cleva Mabel Bechtel _____ (-) daughter of Alvin B. and Nora Baker Bechtel, lives at Camp Hill, Pa.

5. Virginia Belle Bechtel (-) daughter of Alvin B. and Nora Baker Bechtel, is deceased.

6. Ruth Evelyn Bechtel Guyer (6-9-1922 -) daughter of Alvin B. and Nora Baker Bechtel, was born at Woodbury, Pa.

On Dec. 21, 1940 at Cumberland, Maryland Evelyn married Chester Paul Guyer (9-14-1919 -) son of Howard and Ada Guyer of Curryville, Pa.

Chester was born at Imler, Pa. He was Sergeant in the U. S. Medical Army Corps. He graduated from the Youngstown Air Conditioning Training Corporation. Chester is a painter and bulk milk truck driver. He is talented in Music and enjoys hunting.

Evelyn is a talented piano player and singer. She is a part time Egg Candler.

They live at Woodbury, Pa., are members of the Church of the Brethren, and have 3 children:-

(1) Chester Paul Guyer, Jr. (10-9-1941 -) majored in Electrical Technology at Penn State University.

(2) Joanne Kay Guyer (8-5-1943 -)

(3) Joel Robert Guyer (9-16-1950 -)

Autobiography of

Ross Walker Baker

Born: 2 October 1879
Baker's Summit, Bedford County, PA

Died: 12 May 1975
Warren, Trumbull County, OH

FATHER'S BIOGRAPHY

Written 1961

For some unidentified reason, I was born in a large brick house on the Dr. Madara farm at Baker's Summit, Bedford County, Pennsylvania, on October 2, 1879, the son of Mahlon S. Baker and Emma Jane Walker Baker, the family consisting of seven children as follows; Harry W. born on September 5, 1876, Cora W. born June 24, 1878, Anna G. born November 17, 1881, Permilla A. July 18, 1883, Elnora W. February 14, 1886, and Benjamin H. September 9, 1888.

My recollection goes back to age two when I recall being at Grandmother Baker's and receiving the good things grandmas usually have when the grandchildren come, also our Rat Terrier dog Tippy produced three puppies under the manger of father's gray mare and she stepped on one of them. My memory fails in what became of the other two.

In March 1882, our folks moved to Ridgely, Caroline County, Maryland, on what is known as the eastern shore where father purchased a fruit farm. Father preceded the family in a boxcar containing the family belongings including some farm implements and a black Percheron stallion. I recall his purchase of a 32 caliber revolver for $8.00 for protection on the trip as he was alone. Mother followed by passenger train with brother Harry and me; she also had the little dog Tippy which was against the railroad rules and so when the conductor entered the coach she would throw her shawl over Tippy but he finally caught on and he took Tippy to the baggage car for the rest of the journey. On arrival at Ridgely, Md., mother carried me, Harry walking,

down to the baggage car which was just back of the engine, and we saw Tippy tied in the car and when she saw us, she was glad and so were we. The next important event was when Aunt Amanda Baker was milking our red muley cow named Muley she bumped me over. Aunt Amanda was father's sister who came to our new home to help out when Permilla was born. My next recollection was father's hired man Major(colored) caring for the stallion named Pearl. Mother also had a colored maid before Aunt Amanda came who was of quite good size and I recall she always ate at a separate table. Mother was not well that year which was the reason for the household help. She had a seamstress, Mollie Blocker, do some sewing for her, and I recall Mollie chewed snuff and used a cuspidor. Among the things I remember, we were going to a Negro camp meeting in the woods and we had to go through a clearing to get there, and the left front wheel of the surrey broke down. During strawberry time, father hired all colored pickers at one cent per quart. He had a fruit house where the berries were fixed for shipment and as they were grown in the peach orchard, one of his problems was that some pickers would slip a few drop peaches in the bottom of the boxes, and I recall father telling mother that Major who was hired on a salary would help his wife who was on a per quart basis.

There was a canning factory at Ridgely real near to our farm that burned and Harry found an oil whetstone in the ruins which I still have. Father had a bay team, Bob had been a street car horse in Baltimore and Mag which was afraid of the trains which passed through Ridgely. Oyster shells were shipped to Ridgely for highway improvement,

and some odor came from them in warm weather.

When I was age four, Santa Claus brought Harry and me a wooden express wagon which had a leaf of corn in it which caused Harry to question Santa Claus' authenticity. No doubt father had it hidden in the barn waiting for delivery at Christmas time. Our house was large and mother allowed us to play with the wagon in a downstairs vacant room.

Our parents sold the farm to Mr. Edward Stambaugh and wife who had a daughter Stella. They then packed the household goods and shipped them by freight to Cedar, Indiana. I do not remember how the personal property was disposed of but I think it went with the farm. On our trip to Indiana, we stopped off in Pennsylvania to visit friends and relatives and we were at Jake Potes for supper. During the meal I held a table knife up to my left cheek quoting, "I must shave" and that really stirred mother up - silence was in order for me the rest of the meal for certain.

The next I remember is cousin Fred Smith meeting us at Cedar Creek station in Indiana and taking us out to his place, about 3/4 miles, and father immediately rented a house and set up housekeeping. Father found work as a day laborer with Charles Simon several miles from Cedar Chapel Church. I recall he had quite a walk to work and in a few months he and mother bought a forty acre farm one mile south of Garrett, Indiana and we moved to it in the winter. A house was under construction and the man the farm was bought from agreed to finish it which he did, one room was finished in walnut, one in mulberry, one in oak, and one in sasafras, and I think the upstairs was

finished in pine. There was a log cabin four feet behind the new house which we lived in until the new one was finished, then father and George Smith tore it down and cross cut sawed the logs into fire wood which was the standard fuel at that time. The fences were all of split rails mostly oak and black walnut and were having to be replaced and the damaged rails were hauled to the wood yard as it was known and cut into stove lengths with a buck saw, a tool much to my disfavor in later life when the tender age of nine was reached the most delectable days of the week were washing and churning days when I was sentenced to running the crude, cumbersome washer and the barrel churn and the churning was twice a week. These duties were assigned by mother who was of a stern disposition and as a boy about that age has a tendency to be more or less lazy, more or less conversation was applied along with some threatening of the use of a switch as it was known as but the jobs were finally completed but I must say I am allergic to the aforesaid instruments to this day.

The first place we lived, south of Cedar Creek, a small village, father purchased a black and white cow of Holstein descent named Spot which almost became a member of the family. I shall never forget the good things mother made from her milk, butter included, no better was ever made , and it was Spot that made me choose the Holstein breed when starting farming myself. Spot was led to the farm when we moved in March 1884. Father purchased a bay mare Kate from Mr. Strause, a neighbor west of our farm. Kate proved to be our family horse, as I recall we raised six colts from her, Dolly was a strawberry roan which I never really knew who father purchased her from but I overheard

him tell mother he paid $105.00 for her, she raised one colt for us. Everything went well for us as far as us children knew until in March, 1889, father cut his foot splitting wood and he had a terrible time with it. I saw the doctor draw a tea cup full of pus from below the knee. He almost lost his leg and never recovered but tried to farm the next year. Father contracted typhoid fever and was taken from us August 24, 1890, in our home. Harry and I came to supper and mother was crying and we knew she had given up. Trying times began right away, Harry was 14, I was 11, and Bennie 2 and the girls were between Bennie and me. That was the year the panic of Grover Cleveland's administration began and continued three years. Eggs were nine cents, butter ten cents, potatoes fifteen cents, and wheat 38 cents all delivered, but thank God for a wonderful mother, we never went hungry. Only a few times butter was missing from the table so that mother's customers could be supplied. There never were more than five cows and usually not more than four milking and they were not as high producers as cows are today. We boys were too frail to farm and so mother rented the fields out, receiving 2/5 for her share. She sold Dolly, the roan mare, for $75.00 and we had just Kate for the family. When Harry became 16, mother traded a nice two year old colt to O. C. Clark for old Jim, a balky old plug that would pull farm tools much as he hated to, but to start a load he would not do it. Finally he took spasmodic colic and died, and I bawled and Harry made fun of me, he was glad old Jim was gone. Uncle Aaron Baker knew where an old black mare, Flora, could be bought for $15.00, and so we made the deal. When I reached age 15, Harry hired to George Kelham for

$12.00 per month on a farm and I took his place on mother's farm, and then and there I graduated from churning and running the washing machine and began wearing shoes after contracting a hard cold from walking in the cold furrows bare foot for we always abandoned our shoes May 1 until I began farming. Mother had more to go on after she did not have to share with the neighbor who helped us out when we were helpless. Flora raised a colt for us, and I broke him when he was three years old and traded him to a band of Gypsies for a mare, a mate to Old Kate as we were calling her by this time. The new mare was supposed to be in foal, but just wait until you hear the result of my horse trade. Everything went along alright until the following morning when I went to the barn, I found our new prize mare had the worst case of heaves I ever saw and the dope had worn off by that time. Well I worried along with her until spring as the fall work was done, and when she shed her winter coat, I traded her on a nice horse and gave $7.00 to boot and thought we came out alright until we drove him to church and at the hitching rack he had a fit and broke the buggy shafts. I could go into my experience further, but it became worse and worse until the final horse was sold for the total sum of $7.00 and I have despised Gypsies ever since. In those days they were quite an attraction to young people in their camps. Folks would drive several miles to see them and observe their mode of living. Our home was 1/4 mile from District No. 5 Keyser Twp., DeKalb Co. School, where the major part of my education was obtained, graduating on June 22, 1897. There were seven graduates in the township, and the commencement was held at the Union Church northwest of Garrett. The title of my oration was "Success or Failure."

I must return now to my boyhood days. My associates were not angels by any means and neither was I. In fact, I began the tobacco habit at the tender age of eight years, the older boys furnished the tobacco to see us kids get sick and of course after while that was overcome. The habit continued until Christmas Day after my tenth birthday when I swore off from tobacco, in fact I never liked it and so it was not hard to quit and I have never been sorry.

Father and Mother lived happily together, in fact I never heard them quarrel nor argue. They spoke Pennsylvania Dutch dialect while discussing topics we kids were not supposed to know about and of course we began to learn the language and then they found they had to try something else and so we never completed the language and proceeded to speak the English language.

I recall one Sunday we went to church in our farm wagon, we had a one-seated buggy but it could not handle our family. Father and mother and the kids rode on the spring seat and Harry and I on a board across the wagon box. One Sunday, we were somewhat early, there being only a few people present and we boys teamed up with a couple of others and went swimming thinking we could have plenty of time but it stood to reason that while we were somewhat early, certainly we were not that early. Anyhow it was only about 1/4 mile to the creek and so we had the time of our lives that was before bathing suits were invented. Well finally one of the boys thought it would be time soon for church to begin and we dressed and started back to the church when behold we met some of the people going home and so we speeded up somewhat and then saw our wagon come out into the road headed for home.

The horses were hungry and hurried along, maybe trotting some, and Harry and I had to run to catch up which we did and we climbed into the wagon from the rear end and placed the seat board across the wagon box. Father never looked back but I shall never forget the expression on mother's face. To make a long story short, that episode never came to pass again, in fact we were a long time living that down. Father was a quiet mannered man with a personality that attracted many friends. He was generous and kind-hearted to every one with whom he came in contact. He could discipline us kids more by not saying a word than mother could with her stern personality. In event the laying on of hands seemed to be required she always was ready to take over. In those days a couple would raise a family on a 40 acre farm and live well, of course there was not much money. In fact, there was not much required because so much of the living was produced on the farm. A family with 80 acres or more were considered well off because there was more produce to sell after the living was deducted. One hog was processed for each member of the family and everything else was produced on the farm, even to herbs for flavoring and medication, hops for yeast, homemade soap in large quantities was made. An ashhopper was constructed in which the wood ashes were placed and kept dry until soap making time, usually in the early spring. Water was poured into the ash hopper and lye was produced in the process and boiled in a large kettle outdoors hung on a pole with scraps of fat and lard from the inwards of dressed hogs made for soap making. When the process was complete and the contents cooled over night, mother would cut it into cakes, sometimes

four inches square which was used for household purposes only, the toilet soap coming from the store. The everyday soap most generally used was Grandpa's Wonder soap of a dark brown color and strong pine tar odor. As many as 20 gallons of apple butter was made in a single batch in a large copper kettle and many farmers grew sugar cane which was made into sorghum syrup and stored for the winter when the long winter evenings were spent sometimes pulling taffy and popping corn and enjoying living. Folks lived very good from the products of the land, of course there was not much money but there was not much use for it. We could have used more money if we had it. My first ice skates cost 42 cents at Montgomery Ward & Co.,they were plain steel, nickel plated were 56 cents. I was very proud of them and had many nice times skating. The first real money of any consequence was $3.50 from selling walnuts at 75 cents per bushel. The money was invested in two cull sheep at $1.75 each. One of them raised a nice ewe lamb which sheared 14 pounds of wool which along with the other two fleeces brought me the fabulous price of 12 cents per pound. This was my first business venture, the sheep business went on for several years and helped to pay for my clothing, this was going on while I was farming mother's farm starting at age 15 and still in school.

After my graduation at age 18, I enrolled at Manchester College, North Manchester, Indiana taking a preparatory course hoping to teach long enough to return for a course in veterinary medicine. College was tough going because I was working my way through by carrying the college mail and my health broke. In consultation with a physician,

I was informed I had tuberculosis of the lungs and that if my desire was to live, I would have to live an outdoor life and so I finished the year and returned to mother's farm and the next winter with my school mate, Arthur Houser, we cut cord wood at the rate of 50 cents per cord and we by hard work could put up four cords yielding each $1.00 per day, and the outdoor work proved beneficial to my health.

In October, 1899, the romance with Menta Wildeson began and continued four years and three months when on January 24, 1904, we were united in the bonds of holy wedlock.

Before entering college I united with the Church of the Brethern in January, 1897, and was baptized on the Levi Ober farm in January. After Menta and I began our romance, I bought my first buggy for $65.00 and drove our family mare until mother gave me a colt that we had raised from our family mare, Kate. The following year I sold the colt which was sired by Sandy Mack, a trotting horse, and purchased a general purpose mare, Goldie, which took her place on the farm and served as my driving mare. I was farming my mother's farm and renting fields from people who had land but were not using it creating a meager income which was mine as I received no income from Mother's farm because she was still paying on the mortgage. Money was hard to get hold of and so Menta and I could not marry until we had enough to begin housekeeping and farming and so I was employed in the cab shop of the B & O Railroad at $1.58 per day for 10 hours. I paid mother board that winter and accummlated $205.00 and the following January 24, 1904 we were married at Garrett, Indiana, by Rev. David E. Hoover, a Church of the Brethern minister, Mrs. Hoover witnessing. We then drove to

Menta's home where her folks had the wedding supper soon after our arrival. Mother and my sister, Elnora, and brother, Bennie, were at the supper as well as Menta's folks. After supper we drove home to mother's and were glad to get inside because it was cold and snowy but not sleighing. Then in March we moved to the Frederick Imler farm northwest of Garrett where we farmed on the halves for two years. On March 17, 1905, Bertha was born at home with my folks family doctor, Dr. Thompson, as the doctor.

We then moved to the Becker farm northwest of the Union Church where we stayed only one year. This is where Viola was born on December 20, 1906. On November 8, 1906, my brother Benjamin died of tuberculosis of the lungs at the age of 18 years. In February, 1907, we moved to the David Ober farm of 200 acres in Butler Twp. still in DeKalb County. Belva was born on this farm April 6, 1908. Mother died September 8, 1907 of cancer and tuberculosis and rests between brother Benjamin and father in the Union Cemetery.

On August 13, 1908, I went to Trumbull Co., Ohio, and purchased a 100 acre farm and on January 27, 1909 we held a public sale dissolving partnership with the Yarians from whom we were renting on the halves. On February 12, 1909, we left New Era, Indiana, in a freight car containing our personal property consisting of all household goods, quite a few farm tools, 2 fine mares and a colt, 2 cows and 1 heifer, a broad sow and a crate of hens also feed for the trip. Due to transportation conditions we did not arrive at Farmdale, Ohio, our destination, until Saturday February 13 at 6:00 p.m. There were no improved roads and the frost went out the previous day and as we had 5 3/4 miles of mud road ahead of us and soon after starting it

began to rain but we continued on our way arriving about noon at our new home. Aunt Emma Rugman came with Menta and three little girls on Feb. 21 just a week later. I can look back and compare the whole thing to pioneering, the thought of moving to our own home gave us courage to press forward and with the help of a very dear wife we came through, and I can turn the pages back and wonder how. John Hafner sold his farm near ours and asked me to take his milk route which I did. I bought his milk wagon for $12.00 and received $45.00 per month for 4 1/2 miles of mud road but along with the sugar camp they were life savers. Our fourth baby, Hazel, came along May 11, 1909, which was only three months after our arrival in Ohio. There was a lot of hard work for both of us and to add to it, in 1914, we built a new barn 40 x 60 with a basement for the horses and cows. Little Geraldine Floy was born June 11, 1911. She was a sweet baby, but we had her only seven months and nineteen days when God took her to be with Him.

In 1914, we purchased another 100 acre farm and we farmed both farms until we sold them November 20, 1919. We then purchased a 124 acre farm at the south edge of Kinsman, Ohio, and moved to it March 26, 1920. Ross Jr. was born November 4, 1915 and I was elected Township Trustee on that same day. We had great plans for Rossie but he was called home to be with God on February 28, 1931, after 19 days of torture with spinal meningitis.

Wilma was born on February 19, 1920, in Gustavus after the farm was sold and her birth delayed our date of moving. We had a large herd of registered Holstein cattle and things were going along about normal

until my health failed and I was hospitalized for surgery in the Greenville Hospital, Greenville, Pa., on Dec. 3, 1926, from which recovery was slow and proved doubtful. We worried along with hired help until it became evident that I was not making sufficient recovery to run the farm and the hired help were consuming the profit so the milk cows were sold on a rapidly declining market at a public sale and the heifers retained in hopes that my health would return which it failed to do. So on March 1, 1928, the Farm Bureau Service Co. hired me and licensed me to write automobile insurance for Farm Bureau Mutual Automobile Insurance Company. Soon after we sold the farm and had a public sale of our heifers that were rapidly becoming cows. Menta's health failed by that time and was hospitalized in January, 1930 for the first time and after three weeks, her doctor said that if we had a home with running water we could bring her home and so we rented such a house on Rose Garden Drive in Howland Twp., Trumbull Co. and moved to it and then Menta was brought home. We lived there until the Charles Richards house was rented on Walnut St., Cortland, and we moved to it on October 1, 1930. Rossie did not care to live in town and so he stayed at Mark Millers on their farm south of Kinsman until he was stricken with infectious spinal meningitis on February 9, 1931, and went home to be with the Lord on February 28, 1931. A private funeral was held in the home on Walnut Street, Cortland.

We purchased our present home at 236 Grove Drive, Cortland and moved to it on October 1, 1931.

In April, 1934, I relinquished managership of the Farm Bureau Service Co. and became a full time agent of the Farm Bureau Mutual

Automobile Insurance Co. and was made District manager in 1936 which position was held two years when I saw as a local agent my income would be more so I returned to a local agent and remained so until according to the company's retirement plan, I was retired 30 days after my 80th birthday and a nice party was held at the Ma Perkins Inn at McKinley Heights, October 29, 1959, and was attended by 57 Nationwide Insurance Co. agents and officers and their wives. The retirement became effective on November 1, 1959, after 31 years and 8 months of service, and in just a month, Menta went home to Glory, and I was left to rebuild a broken life.

My illnesses began with an appendectomy December 3, 1926. Something unknown even by doctors kept me at home for three months in 1942, and a stroke was suffered April 15, 1944, that kept me at home a year and went back to the road in another month, my business was conducted at home through both illnesses. On June 11, 1958, heart failure struck, and I was hospitalized 29 days then returned for surgery for hydrocele September 27, 1958, and it not proving successful, was done over March 15, 1959, proving a success and by the spring of 1959, recovery seemed visible and my time was devoted mostly to caring for Menta who was very ill with a heart condition, gall bladder, and arterial sclerosis. Her illness from January, 1930 to 1959 resulted in 16 trips to the hospital by ambulance and on December 1, 1959, she went home to be with the Lord.

Since Menta's passing I am trying to rebuild a broken life with God's help and spending my time in His service wherever opportunity presents itself. In conclusion, whether my life was a success or

failure depends upon the judgment of those who have known me and God, who has the final say. At any rate, I realize there were many mistakes in my life but I have always done my best with what God gave me to work with.

When I am gone,
Pluck not a single flower for me,
Let it grow and bloom
Where friends of mine may see.

Signed, Rose M. Baker

January 1, 1971

Supplement to Father's Life History

My solitary life continued and it was made much more pleasant by my sympathetic friends. My health was not at all bad since Menta was taken from me. I guess the two years prior to her passing contained enough ailments to last a while. There were so many opportunities to help others that it made my burdens lighter, maybe. I had a very good friend Frank Davis who also lost his wife and like me was also trying to make the best of the situation so an invitation was extended to him to ride with me to the Kathryn Kuhlman services in Youngstown, Ohio which Frank gladly accepted. While he was a man of very good habits and did good wherever he could he still lacked the salvation of his soul so as time went on Frank soon found Christ as his personal Saviour. Frank from there lived true to his convictions. Time went on as usual and Frank's health failed. His potatoes were ready to dig so I dug them for him and the little Fry girls picked them up, bless their little hearts. This was on Saturday and Frank came out where I was working not more than three times for he was feeling so bad. On one time he was out with me I asked him if he would go to Kathryn Kuhlman's service the next day and he replied that he would if he felt better. That evening he went to Johnston for a hair cut and that was the last he was seen for he passed away sometime that night. On Sunday morning Mrs. McKitrick who lives across the street noticed Frank's car door was open which was unusual so she went over to investigate and she found Frank dead. Mrs. McKitrick, Frank's stepmother, stated to me that had it not been for me Frank would have been lost.

Charley Coon and his son Arthur also rode with me to church in Youngstown and they also came back to God. Arthur was sent to the Receiving Home in Youngstown by his doctor leaving his father alone and his father went to the basement to kindle a fire and he fell and laid for one and one half days before he gained strength to go up the steps to call me at 7:00 P. M. In November I went to Mr. Coon's home and after preparing food for Mr. Coon I called his doctor and he came and administered medicine and left and by that time it dawned on me that Mr. Coon could not be left alone and it was 9:00 P. M. by that time so I called the Lakeview Nursing Home and got permission to enter Mr. Coon and in three weeks he passed away. Arthur Coon is at present in the State Hospital at Massillon, Ohio but he is a Christian.

In the year of 1965 my friend Albert Fitch was very ill so I planted most of his garden and cared for it and he passed away that fall.

In 1968 the family of Mr. James Nichols and eight children had to have a place to move to so I purchased a home for them and sold it to them on a land contract on June 29, 1968 and on February 15, 1969 the house burned and the family was all away for the night so it must have been the good Lord's will that they be away from home or they could have all or part of them perished. It must have been the will of the good Lord that the insurance company paid the full value which included the household goods and Mr. Nichols paid the mortgage to me and I gave them a deed for the two acres of land. After he paid my claim

he had $6,500 left so he planned a $13,000 new home and I loaned him $9,000 and now they are living in a nice new home with a two car garage attached and they had nothing to start with. They are a very deserving family. When we go out there the small children flock around me so much.

In the Christmas season of 1968 I sent a card to several jails and the only one which I received a response from was the Trumbull County jail and that was Mr. George Leary who was waiting for his trial for something unknown to me. We corresponded for some time and Lucille and me went to the jail to see George and to present him the Bible and pack of religious magazines. The turnkey remarked that George could have the Bible but not the magazines and the reply was that they were a fire hazard among the prisoners. We also were refused admission as visitors were limited to only near relatives. George's trial came up and the Judge sentenced him to seven years in the Ohio Penitentiary. After he was there a while some of the worst prisoners started a riot and a bunch of the tamest ones were taken to the Correction Institute as it is called and our George was one of the bunch. Lucille and me are approved correspondents and visitors so we engaged Mr. Leander Brobst to drive us to Chillicothe, Ohio on October 23, 1970 to visit George a round trip of 496 miles. After we proved ourselves we were escorted to the visitors reception room and George was located at the football field and when he was told he had company waiting for him he shouted, "I know who that is, Ross Baker". We had a real nice visit

with George and he is now age 69 and he found Jesus Christ in the Trumbull County jail. He was a professional boxer until he was 35 years old and has been a criminal ever since, has been in jails and prisons ever since. He has not had a home since he was 10 years old as his father was an alcoholic and left his orphan children. George has been all over the United States and 6 years in Australia, in the Philippine Islands in the Army and also in Puerto Rico. He has served 3 years in this prison and he will go before the Parole Board some time soon. I talked with Warden Salisbury and he thinks George will have no trouble with the Parole Board. The requirements are partly that he must have a job to go to and a place to live. As you know it will be hard to find a job for a man of George's age, but I am corresponding with Rev. LeRoy Jenkins, Delaware, Ohio who is building an auditorium that will seat 7,000 people and he at present has a home for homeless boys which is to be enlarged and Rev.Jenkins thinks he will have a place for George when the time comes. George says it was my love and thoughtfulness that brought him to Christ and if it was the little I have done that saved another soul praise our Heavenly Father.

To return to my own life, there was a fine Christian lady who had made her own living and I was trying to make my own living with a decision that my relatives would not approve of my wedding when on April 24, 1966 the Lord spoke to me, "Ross have a mind of your own" and the lady that had been a widow 20 years without children agreed to marry me and on July 9, 1966 we were married in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Staley,

50 East Oxford St., Alliance, Ohio by the Rev. Auler then the party had a prearranged wedding at a place in Alliance that caters to such groups as ours.

In August 1967 we engaged Mrs. Claribel Cope, Warren, Ohio to help with the driving to my son-in-law and daughter, Mr. & Mrs M. L. Knight, Blue Ridge, Georgia for a day and a night, then from there we drove to Livingston, Alabama to my wife's home and I am very sorry that her name was Cora Lucille Stewart and the fact her name was not mentioned before in this report of my activities. On our arrival at my wife's home we found her mother in the York, Alabama hospital. On the third day we headed for home. My wife's mute sister age 63 came home with us to make her home. Her name is Sarah C. Leitch. We three have a very happy home. It seems we all help with the work that all common folks have to do.

As to my religion I gave my heart to God in January 1887 and was baptized in deep water. Seven years later I was married and in February 1909 we moved to Farmdale, Ohio. The church in which I was converted was the Church of the Brethern. In our new home we did not know of a Church of the Brethern so we united with the the Methodist Church at Gustavus, Ohio and when we moved to Kinsman we had our membership transferred to the Kinsman Methodist Church and after 11 years we moved to Cortland, Ohio and had our membership transferred to the Cortland Methodist Church in 1931. I had heard of Kathryn Kuhlman's ministry and I was in attendance at her ministry April 24, 1952 and a lady from Martins Ferry, Ohio was present

with a little 6 month old girl with a club foot. The little foot turned up side down and it became natural in the service that day and while I lived on faith up to that day and now as I witnessed that little girl's healing I was convinced that God is real and that no church that I knew of practiced divine healing so my support has gone to the Kathryn Kuhlman Foundation ever since. Her ministry has saved many souls and the procedure of most of them is to unite with a church of their choice and be baptized. I have known three men who at present are preaching the gospel. The Church of the Brethern does not believe in secret organizations for Christ said, "I have done nothing in secret". Before Cora Lucille and me were married I attended Church of God services Sunday evenings and prayer meeting wednesday evening, the reason is that the Methodist Church does not have such services.

As to my health, on Sept. 11, 1968 I fell backwards causing a brain concussion and cut the sweet corn, picked beans and tomatoes, in fact worked five days which caused glaucoma of the eyes. The left eye became sightless for eight months and the sight was restored at a Kathryn Kuhlman service Oct. 6, 1969. Not long after the fatal fall it was discovered my trouble is Parkinson's disease which has been considered incurable at this time. My eyes are being treated by Dr. Thomas of Warren who hopes to save what I still have to serve me the short time I have to stay here.

To return to my second marriage I did not consult my daughters prior to the ceremony nor after as far as that is

concerned but there was a very cold wave in all directions but it took years to warm the atmosphere to a speaking situation and I am not sure all is well but anyhow I feel certain that Father would not be here if he would have continued living alone, of course that is not known for sure. As far as a second marriage is concerned is that there will be no marriage in Heaven but we will be rejoicing and praising the Lord and the second marriage is permitted if a couple is separated by death. We have a happy home and lots of friends over a wide area and we help others when the opportunity presents itself. We are not perfect people by any means but we do try to follow our dear Saviour's teachings and you know he said none are perfect but him.

Signed, Ross W. Baker

Evening Star 5/13/1975

Ross Baker

Ross W. Baker, 95, died at 3:10 p.m. Monday at Warren Hospital, Warren, Ohio. He had been in the hospital several months.

He was born Oct. 2, 1879 at Bakers Summitt, Pa., to Emma and Mahahlon Baker. On Jan. 24, 1904, he married Loa A. Wildseon. She died Dec. 1, 1951.

Mr. Baker was a retired insurance salesman having worked for the Farm Bureau and Nationwide Insurance companies for 31 years. He was a member of the Kathyran Coleman Foundation, Youngstown, Ohio, and the Golden Age Club, Cortland, Ohio.

Survivors include five daughters, Mrs. Bertha Everhart, and Mrs. Hazel Davis, Columbus, Ohio, Mrs. Viola Knight of Madison Height, Va., Mrs. Belva Morris, Pittsburgh, Kan., Mrs. Wilma Kahlar, Cortland, Ohio, two sisters, Mrs. Millie Moughler, Garrett, and Mrs. Elnora Bechtel, Woodbary, Pa.

Funeral services will be Thursday at the Shaffer-Winans Love Funeral Home, Cortland, Ohio, with burial in Greenlawn Cemetery, Greenlawn Greene, Ohio.

Friends may call at the funeral home from 7 to 9 p.m. Wed[illegible]

Cove Gallery MCH Nov. 23, 1971 Vol. 3 No. 25

Oak Grove School'10

The pupils of the Oak Grove School, Martinsburg RD1, posed for this photograph in 1910. The Oak Grove School was located just west of Shoemaker's Crossroads, now the home of the Donald Mingle family. This photo was loaned to Cove Gallery by Mrs. Martha (Kauffman) Keim of Martinsburg, who is the little girl next to the teacher in this photo. Mrs. Keim identified all of the pupils in the picture as follows: First row (left to right): Eleanore Baker Bechtel (teacher), Mrs. Keim, Paul Wareham, Henry Madara, Edna Madara Showalter, Rebecca Nicodemus Peck (deceased), Victor Sell, Fannie Zimmerman Metzker, Margaret Russell Steele (deceased), Hannah Leidy Raub. Second row: Carl Madara (deceased), Grace Zimmerman Stern (deceased), Faith Snider (deceased), Margaret Stern May, Clyde Maurer, Leonore Stern Ray, Virgie Gartland. Third row: Frank Russell (deceased), George Zimmerman (deceased), Charles Russell (deceased), Vivian Maurer Buchanan (deceased), David Wareham, Orville Sell, Ethel Maurer (deceased), Mary Gartland, Irvin Wareham. Fourth row: Lizzie Leidy Glass (deceased), Silvia Maurer Langham, Jacob Zimmerman (deceased), Charles Snider (deceased), Martha Wisler Reffner (deceased), and Mary Zimmerman Lehman.

21 103

Millie Moughler dies at age 99

9-Aug-1982

Mrs. Permilla W. (Millie) Moughler, 99, 403 South Walsh street, died at 6:35 p.m. Friday at Betz Nursing Home, Auburn.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. today at the United Presbyterian Church with Rev. Charles Gordon officiating. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemeter. Friends may call at the church after noon today.

The family has requested preferred memorials to the Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Moughler was born July 18, 1883, at Ridgley, Maryland, to Mr. and Mrs. Mahlon W. Baker. Her husband, Earl C. Moughler, preceded her in death.

Survivors include two daughters, Beiva Davis, Alliance, Ohio; and Mrs. Richard (Dola) Sorgel, Fort Wayne; two sons, Willard and Dale Hurni, both of Auburn; 11 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren and 17 great-great-grandchildren.

Permilla Moughler

GARRETT — Permilla W. "Millie" Moughler, 99, formerly of 403 S. Walsh St., Garrett, died at 6:35 p.m. Friday in the Betz Nursing Home, Auburn.

She was born July 18, 1883, in Ridgley, Md., a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mahlon W. Baker, and was preceded in death by her husband, Earl Moughler.

Mrs. Moughler was a member of the Garrett Presbyterian Church.

Surviving are two sons, Willard and Dale Hurni, both of Auburn; two daughters, Beiva Davis, Alliance, Ohio, and Dola Sorgel, Fort Wayne; 11 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and 17 great-great-grandchildren.

The body is at the Baldinger & Walter Funeral Home, Spencerville, where friends may call from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. Sun[illegible]

The body will be taken to the Presbyterian Church at noon Monday for services at 2 p.m. with the pastor, Rev. Charles Gordon, officiating. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery.

March 3, 1953

Four Generations of DeKalb County Family

- **Shown above** are the representatives of four generations. Seated is Mrs. Earl Moughler, who lives at 403 South Walsh street, Garrett. Standing are her son, Willard Hurni, 49, and his daughter, Mrs. Paul Moore, 29. On her great-grandmother's lap is little Rowena Moore, who is two years old. The younger three generations of Mrs. Moughler's family live in St. Joe. Mrs. Moughler was born 69 years ago in Ridgely, Md., the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mahlon S. Baker. The family moved to a farm south of Garrett when Mrs. Moughler was two years old, and she lived there until her first marriage, when she and her husband, Alfred L. Hurni, moved to Grand Ledge, Mich. She married Mr. Moughler in 1947.

Died May 28, 1991
Auburn Evening Star

Deaths/Funerals

Dale Hurni

H. Dale Hurni, 79, died at 12:30 a.m. today at Betz Nursing Home in Auburn. Mr. Hurni lived at 721 Ohio Ave., Auburn.

He was born June 8, 1911 in Trumbull County, Ohio, to the late Alfred L. and Permilla W. (Baker) Hurni. He retired in 1973 from Auburn Foundry, where he worked 44 years as a plant superintendent and personnel manager.

Mr. Hurni was a member of the Auburn Presbyterian Church.

He married the former Dolores R. Minard on July 17, 1971. She survives in Auburn.

Also surviving are two sons, Joe Hurni of Auburn and G. Wayne Hurni of San Diego; a daughter, Judith Cope of Auburn; a step-daughter, Sally Tenney of Morristown, Tenn.; a sister, Dola Sorgel of Fort Wayne; 11 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; eight step-great-grandchildren and one step-great-great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Willard, and a sister, Belva Davis.

Services are 11 a.m. Thursday at the Auburn Presbyterian Church, with the Rev. Hoyt Byrum officiating. Calling hours are from 3 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Feller Funeral Home and one hour prior to the service at the church.

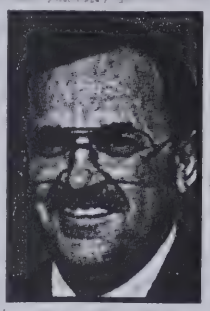
Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to the Auburn Presbyterian Church or to the DeKalb chapter of the American Lung Association.

D. 12-31-1996

Joe Hurni

AUBURN — Joe A. Hurni, 55, died Tuesday at 9:26 p.m. in his Auburn home.



Hurni

Mr. Hurni operated Hurni Decorating Center in Auburn, then merged the business with Interiors Inc., which he operated in Auburn and Angola from 1972 to 1982. He served as district sales manager for Harrison Paint Corp. of Canton, Ohio, from 1982 until his death. He was a member of the County Line Church of God and the Auburn Lions Club. He was a former member and past president of Auburn Little League.

He was born Oct. 5, 1941, in Auburn. His mother, Vera (Crabill) Hurni, survives in Auburn and his father, Harry Dale Hurni, is deceased.

He married Kathleen Flanagan on June 19, 1976, in Auburn and she survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Richard L. of Indianapolis and Dane A. of Auburn; five daughters, Melissa M. Jackson of Fort Wayne, and Lana J. Sutton, Valerie K. Hurni, Jilleen J. Hurni, and Lindsay M. Hurni, all of Auburn; one brother, Gale Wayne of San Diego; and two grandchildren, Justin Pineiro and Rachel Sutton.

One sister, Judith Cope, preceded him in death.

Friends may call Friday from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. in Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo.

Services will take place Saturday at 10 a.m. in the County Line Church of God, with the Rev. Al Black officiating. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn.

Memorial donations may be given to the Hurni Children Trust Fund, in care of the County Line Church of God.

dies April 9, 1993

The Evening Star, Sat., April 10, 1993, Page A12

Deaths/Funerals

Judith Hurni Cope

Judith Ann Hurni Cope, 58, died Friday at 7:30 a.m. in St. Anne Nursing Home, Fort Wayne.

She lived on North Jackson Street in Auburn. She was a former director of nutrition at Oak Meadows Learning Center of Auburn and later held the same position at McCray Memorial Hospital in Kendallville, until retiring two years ago.

She was born May 27, 1934, in St. Joe. Her father, H. Dale Hurni, preceded her in death.

Surviving are her mother, Vera Marie Hurni, of Auburn; two daughters, Debra A. Wilson, Myrtle Beach, S.C., and Cynthia L. Weaver, Fort Wayne; two brothers, Joe A. Hurni of Auburn and Gale W. Hurni, San Diego, Calif.; and six grandchildren.

She was a member of the First Christian Church in Auburn and the Dietary Managers Association.

Services will be Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the First Christian Church. The Rev. Alice Hupp will officiate. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn.

Friends may call Monday from 2:30-5 and 7-9 p.m. in Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo.

Memorial donations may be made to the DeKalb County unit of the American Cancer Society or the First Christian Church.

The Evening Star, Thurs., Aug. 10, 2000, Page A8

Deaths/Funerals

Vera Hurni

AUBURN — Vera Marie Hurni, 94, died Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2000, at 6:55 p.m. in Betz Nursing Home, Auburn.

Mrs. Hurni was a fifth-grade teacher for 40 years, retiring in 1971 from the Garrett-Keyser-Butler Community School District. She was a member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Auburn, the DeKalb County Retired Teachers Association and Delta Kappa Gamma Sorority.

She was born March 3, 1906, in Auburn to Alva and Carrie (Lahnum) Crabill.

Surviving her are one son, Gale Wayne Hurni of San Diego, Calif.; a half-brother, Alva Crabill Jr. of Auburn; 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one daughter, Judith Ann Cope, one son, Joe A. Hurni, and one brother, Arnold Crabill.

Services will be held Saturday at 1 p.m. in Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo, with calling after noon. Dr. Robert Craig will officiate. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn.

Memorials are to the Joe A. Hurni and Sandra J. Dove Memorial Scholarship Fund, in care of the DeKalb County Community Foundation.

Died 6-7-1997

Hearsel Shockley

ST. JOE — Hearsel S. "Bud" Shockley, 72, died Saturday at 4:42 a.m. in Gwinnett Medical Center in Lawrenceville, Ga.

Mr. Shockley retired in 1982 from International Harvester, Fort Wayne, with 38 years of service. He retired in 1990 from Vulcraft and Nucor Fastener in St. Joe with seven years of service. He was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Navy and lived on West Washington Street in St. Joe. He was a member and elder of St. Joe Church of Christ, and a member of St. Joe-Spencerville Lions Club and the Auburn post of the American Legion.

He was born March 21, 1925, in Muncie to the late Hearsel Clarence and Kathryn (Conwell) Shockley.

He married Lois Jean Hurni on April 24, 1948, in the St. Joe Church of Christ, and she survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Doug of Lawrenceville, Ga., and Matt of Fishers; two daughters, Nanette Dougan of Fort Wayne and Nile Fuller of St. Joe; one brother, Bob of Auburn; one sister, Margaret Connor of Blountsville; and nine grandchildren.

Two sisters, Louise Zimmerman and Betty Rediger, and one brother, Roland, preceded him in death.

Friends may call Tuesday from 2-9 p.m. in Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo.

Services will be conducted Wednesday at 11 a.m. in the St. Joe Church of Christ, with calling after 10 a.m. The Rev. Matt Higle will officiate, with burial in Riverside Cemetery, St. Joe.

Memorial contributions may be given to the church.

died 1-9-99

The Evening Star, Mon., Jan. 11, 1999,

Deaths/Funerals

Leila Moore

ST. JOE — Leila Mae Moore, 76, died Saturday at 6:30 a.m.

Mrs. Moore was a cook at Riverdale Elementary School in St. Joe for 15 years and also worked for the General Electric Co. in Fort Wayne. She was a member of the St. Joe Church of Christ.

She was born Dec. 16, 1922, in Hicksville, Ohio, to the late Willard Leroy and Olive Odessa (Mettert) Hurni.

She married Paul A. Moore on Oct. 12, 1948, in St. Joe, and he survives.

Also surviving are two daughters, Rowena Edquid of Fort Wayne and Janelle Baggett of Dallas; one brother, Maurice Hurni of Union Mills, Ind.; two sisters, Jean Shockley of St. Joe and Barb Timmerman of Spencerville; and four grandchildren, Carrie and Kristen Edquid, and Travis and Britney Baggett.

Friends may call today from 2-8 p.m. in Carnahan-Baidinger & Walter Funeral Home, Spencerville.

Her funeral service will begin at 11 a.m. Tuesday in the St. Joe Church of Christ. Pastor Matt Higle and Pastor Larry Watson will officiate. Burial will follow in Riverside Cemetery, St. Joe.

Memorial contributions may be given to the church or to Alzheimer's Association-Northern Indiana Chapter.

...Multiple Sclerosis Foundation.

St. Joe D. 1-9-1999

LELIA MAE MOORE, 76, died Saturday. Born in Hicksville, Ohio, she was a cook at Riverdale Elementary School in St. Joe for 15 years. She also worked at General Electric in Fort Wayne. Surviving are her husband, Paul A.; two daughters, Rowena Edquid of Fort Wayne and Janelle Baggett of Dallas; a brother, Maurice Hurni of Union Mills; two sisters, Jean Shockley of St. Joe and Barb Timmerman of Spencerville; and four grandchildren. **Services at 11 a.m. Tuesday at St. Joe Church of Christ, with calling an hour before services. Calling also from 2 to 8 p.m. today at Carnahan-Baidinger & Walter Funeral Home, Spencerville.** Burial in Riverside Cemetery, St. Joe. Memorials to the church or Alzheimer's Association, Northern Indiana Chapter.

died aug 22, 1996

The Evening Star, Fri., Aug. 23, 1996, P

Deaths/Funerals

Geraldine Hurni

AUBURN — Mrs. Geraldine G. Hurni, 85, of Hawthorne Court, Auburn, died Thursday morning in Parkview Memorial Hospital, Fort Wayne.

She was a former employee of the J.C. Penney Co. in Albion and was a retired employee of the Noble County Co-op. She was a member of the Auburn Presbyterian Church and the Auburn Garden Club and a volunteer worker for the Curiosity Shop, Auburn.

She was born Aug. 24, 1910, in Kendallville to Edward and Addie (Miller) Haynes. Her first husband, Keith Seymoure, died in 1967 and her second husband, Willard L. Hurni, died in 1984.

She is survived by a stepson, Maurice L. Hurni of Union Mills; three stepdaughters, Mrs. Leila M. Morre of St. Joe, Mrs. Jean Shockley of St. Joe, and Mrs. Barbara A. Timmerman of Spencerville; a niece, Becky Schermerhorn of Wawaka; a nephew, Mike Haynes of Muncie; 13 stepgrandchildren; 22 stepgreat-grandchildren; and three stepgreat-great-grandchildren.

Two brothers and one sister preceded her in death.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday at 10 a.m. in Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo, with the Rev. Scott Coulter of the Auburn Presbyterian Church officiating.

Friends may call today from 6-9 p.m. at the funeral home or one hour prior to services Saturday.

Burial will be in Lakeview Cemetery, Kendallville.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Auburn Presbyterian Church.

Garth Silberg died 12-1-1993

HAMILTON — Garth S. Silberg, 88, died Wednesday at 7:10 p.m. in Meadowhaven Healthcare Center, Butler.

A rural Hamilton resident, he was a truck driver for Renters Express for 25 years, retiring in 1970. He was a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Auburn, Auburn Elks Lodge, Auburn Moose Lodge, and the Hamilton Fish & Game Club.

He was born June 16, 1905, in Spencerville to the late Steven and Susie (Miller) Silberg.

Surviving him are one son, Steven of Auburn; three grandchildren, Steven David of Hamilton, Chris Packer of Jersey City, N.J., and Shelly Pickren of River Forest, Ill.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Sandra David, two brothers and two sisters.

Friends may call Friday from 2-5 and 6-9 p.m. in Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo. The Auburn Elks Lodge will conduct a memorial service Friday at 8:30 p.m. in the funeral home.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. in the funeral home, with the Rev. Herschel Murray of the Hamilton United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be in Roselawn Cemetery, Auburn.

Memorial contributions to the Hamilton Fish & Game Club are preferred.

Dola Sorgel

FORT WAYNE — Dola M. Sorgel, 77, died Sunday at 1 a.m. in her Fort Wayne home.

She retired in 1977 with 20 years of service as a manager of Roberts Shoes in Auburn.

She was born Dec. 26, 1917, in Corunna to the late Albert and Permilla (Baker) Hurni.

She married Richard J. Sorgel in 1975, and he survives.

Also surviving are one son, Steve Silberg of Auburn; three stepsons, Stephen Sorgel of Los Angeles, John Sorgel of Chicago and Frank Sorgel of Oak Park, Ill.; and one grandchild.

One daughter, Sandra K. David, preceded her in death.

Friends may call today from 3-5 and 7-9 p.m. in D.O. McComb & Sons Maplewood Park Funeral Home, 4017 Maplecrest Road, Fort Wayne.

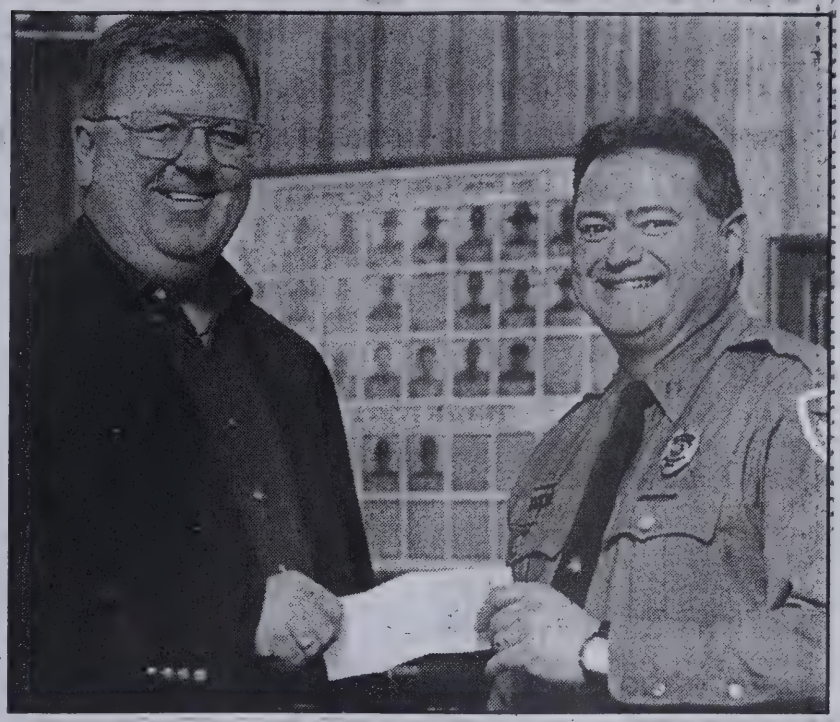
Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the funeral home. The Rev. Carl Satre of Messiah Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, will officiate. Burial will be in Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Memorial contributions may be given to the donor's favorite charity.

died 2-19-1995

The Evening Star

March 6, 1998



SUPPORT FOR FIREARMS TRAINING — Craig Taylor of McComb, Dilgard and Cline Funeral Home gives a check for $1,000 to Auburn Police Capt. Tim Baker. The money will go toward expansion of the department's firearms training facility. (Star photo by Dean A. Orewiler)

Donations boost fund for firearms training

By SHIRLEY GIFFORD

AUBURN — The Auburn Police Department has been targeting area businesses for donations to expand its indoor/outdoor firearms training facility.

Thursday, Craig Taylor of McComb, Dilgard and Cline Funeral Home presented a donation of $1,000 for the project to Capt. Tim Baker.

Baker said excavation for the firing range expansion may begin this summer, and area contractors have volunteered time and equipment.

He said a separate building would accommodate 75 officers for police training. A parking area will be 150 by 100 feet.

The shell of the building will be erected by contractors, and the finish work will be done by volunteers within the police department to save money, Baker explained.

"The entire area out there will benefit from the work that's done," Baker said. "It will drastically dress it up."

In the near future, Baker said, he and Police Chief Kerry Uhrick and road Lt. Martin McCoy will be contacting more businesses for donations. He said he's encouraged that the donations so far have come to $12,000.

UNWANTED GUN

UNWANTED GUN — Auburn Police Sgt. Tim Baker shows the Rev. Alice Hupp a .25 caliber, German-made Walther revolver — one of two handguns collected Tuesday night at the First Christian Church. A "turn in your guns" night at the Auburn church brought in the four weapons shown here — two shotguns and two small handguns.

Four guns surrendered at church

AUBURN — The city's first "turn in your guns" night collected four weapons Tuesday at the First Christian Church.

"Even if we got one, we would be happy, because that would be one that would not fall into the wrong hands," said Sheila Sawyers, a church member who chaired the project.

"I didn't know what to expect. We've never done anything like this before," said the Rev. Alice Hupp, pastor of the church, said of the results.

Auburn Police co-sponsored the event, which had the blessing of the Auburn Ministerial Association. It continued this morning from 9 a.m. to noon.

Police took the weapons to have them destroyed, except in cases of weapons with historical value.

Three people who dropped off guns at the church Tuesday night had received the guns from relatives, but didn't like having weapons at home.

Guns collected Tuesday included:

• a .25 caliber, German-made Walther semi-automatic revolver. A woman had received it from her ex-husband many years ago, and she feared having it around children. "She wants to see it destroyed because she just does not like handguns," Sawyers said.

• a .22 caliber, seven-shot revolver. It came from a man who inherited it from his late uncle. The new owner didn't want it around, and had contemplated burying it in his back yard, Sawyers said.

• two shotguns, one .20-gauge and one .12 gauge, came from the same man. They had belonged to his father, and he didn't want to keep them with children in the home.

Sawyers said the project was not an anti-gun crusade, and she does not oppose gun ownership.

"We are not trying to tell people you need to turn these in," Sawyers said. "For those people who don't want to have them in their home, here's a place to turn them in."

One visitor came to object to the gun collection program.

"He came and he talked, and I think he felt a little bit better about it" when he left, Hupp said.

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